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THE MARTLET

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Vikes en route to World Cup

Five UVic rugby players are heading to Dubai for the 2009 Rugby World Cup Sevens

Andrew Smith

JOSÉ ROMELO LAGMAN PHOTO

UVic's Neil Meechan (far right) eludes his South African tacklers during the USA Sevens in San Diego, California on Feb. 14. Meechan and four other UVic rugby players will be representing Canada during the 2009 Rugby World Cup Sevens from March 6 to 8.

The eyes of the world will be on the Rugby World Cup Sevens in Dubai, UAE on March 5, and several UVic rugby players will be representing Canada.

According to the International Rugby Board, the tournment will be screened in 140 different countries through 25 international broadcasters. Among the 24 national teams competing to be crowned world champions are 12 Canadians looking to reassert themselves on the international Sevens circuit. Out of those 12, 10 individuals currently play their club rugby right here in Victoria — and five of those players are currently playing in UVic's rugby program.

It will be the chance of a lifetime as Adam Kleeberger, Neil Meechan, Phil Mackenzie, Jordan Kozina and Gordie Sawers put their studies on hold to play at the highest international level of rugby.

Unknown to many in Victoria, Sevens is an abbreviated game of rugby that follows the same rules as the traditional 15-a-side format. The only differences are that a team will field seven players at a time, and the halves are shortened from a grueling 40 minutes down to brief seven-minute intervals.

The pitch remains the same size, and with 16 fewer players on the field, the game becomes a wide-open contest of speed and handling skills. For many newcomers to rugby, the abbreviated version is considered much easier to understand and tends to be higher scoring in shorter periods of time.

Entire Sevens tournaments can take just two days, and because of the fast and exciting style of play, it tends to be well received by the international rugby community.

The annual Hong Kong Sevens, for example, regularly sells out its 120,000-seat stadium each spring as the Sevens teams come to battle it out. Due to the wide fan base in the Commonwealth, Asian, Pan-American and World Games, the international rugby community has been trying to have Sevens rugby added to the list of Olympic sports. It's a tough challenge, but a necessary one for the growth of the game on the world stage.

A number of professional clubs will also be releasing their players for the tournament — something that doesn't always happen due to the number of annual tournaments on the Sevens' circuit. James Pritchard from Bedford Rugby Club (RC) and Justin Mensah Coker from Plymouth Albion RFC will be released by their clubs to represent Canada in Dubai. The two players were missing from Canada's recent tour that saw them take the Shield in San Diego, California on Feb. 15.

According to Canadian National Men's Sevens' coach Shane Thompson, the addition of the two players will add a new dimension to the team's scoring abilities.

"They will give us a different threat," Thompson said. "They will allow us to capitalize on some of our offensive opportunities that we haven't been able to finish recently."

The two professional players from Europe will be joined by a squad that has trained and played alongside one another for several months through the Carded Program in Victoria.

Many of Canada's up-and-coming rugby stars are "carded," where they are paid to train in a high-performance program set to prepare them for the international stage. The program not only develops them individually, but builds a chemistry among the players for when they travel to international tournaments such as the World Cup this March.

Also joining the tour to add to their offensive strength is UVic's Gordie Sawers. After an impressive New Zealand tournament in what Thompson described as Sawers' best Sevens career performance, his quick pace and ability to generate plays will be a strong asset to the Canadian team.

See Vikes destined, p. 20

Funding decisions imminent for UVic's advocacy groups

Referendum will ask students to pay up to $6.55 extra to support the needs of marginalized groups on campus

Gemma Karstens-Smith

This year's UVic Student Society election ballot will ask students if they are willing to provide more funding to UVic's advocacy groups via student fees.

Each of UVic's five advocacy groups serves the interests of a group that has traditionally been marginalized. Four groups – the Native Students Union (NSU), the Students of Colour Collective (SOCC), UVic Pride and the Women's Collective – came together for one question, which proposes raising each group's base funding to $2 per student. The total increase would mean $4.55 per semester for full-time students if the referendum is successful.

One group, Access UVic, is working independently on the second question, seeking to bring their base funding up to $3.50 per student, at a cost of $2 per semester for full-time students.

The Martlet talked to the groups to find out who they are and how extra funding could help them.

Native Students Union

The NSU represents Indigenous UVic students, though members also come from outside the campus community. Located in the basement of the Student Union Building (SUB), NSU provides students with space and support. They host a meal program and put on advocacy and social events, including the Stolen Sisters' memorial march on Feb. 14.

"Our main goal is to provide a community on campus for the students," said Alexa Brosseau, the NSU's resource co-ordinator.

Judging by the NSU's listserve, Brosseau estimates the NSU has approximately 500 members, 50 to 100 of which use the NSU office and resources on a regular basis.

Currently, the NSU receives $1 per semester from each full-time student's UVSS fees. The money goes toward maintaining NSU's office and putting on programs and events, such as feasts, which they hold about three times a year in a traditional big house.

"[The feasts] gather elders in the community, all the different bands in the community and students," said Brosseau. "It's something that a lot of students need, especially those who are away from home and are used to [the feasts]."

If the referendum is successful, the NSU will put the extra money toward enhancing current services and hiring a paid co-ordinator so they no longer have to rely entirely on volunteers to run the program.

"Right now I don't think we're able to service students like we could," said Brosseau. "We don't have a steady person that can maintain all the ties with the community and all the offices on campus and make sure things are running smoothly."

Students of Colour Collective

The SOCC represent students of colour at UVic, but their work is not confined to issues of race.

Luam Kidane, SOCC co-ordinator, said that in addition to working toward the creation and expansion of academic, social and political spaces for people of colour on campus, SOCC also works against oppression based on race, gender, class ability, nationality and language.

The $0.50 SOCC currently receives from each full-time student's UVSS fees each semester goes toward providing students with resources and support and organizing and supporting events, including workshops and panel discussions.

Workshop topics range from art as creative resistance to anti-racism and anti-oppressive facilitation tools.

See Needs often exceed, p. 2

Continued from p. 1

Needs often exceed resources, say group reps

In the past, SOCC has also published a zine called PULSE, though they haven't been able to for about three years.

Kidane says about 20 people are involved with planning, organizing and running SOCC, which is located in the SUB basement.

"Our membership and the people we represent, however, far exceed this number," noted Kidane.

Should the referendum pass, the extra $1.50 SOCC would receive will go toward hiring a full-time co-ordinator. The money would also support holding more frequent workshops and lecture series, increasing the number of publications they produce and continuing the services they already provide.

Kidane said that the money would also allow SOCC to "embark on community and university-based research projects centered on issues of, among other things, race, gender, class ability, nationality and language."

UVic Pride

UVic Pride is the only queer organization for all of Victoria, according to Pride Co-ordinator Cora Babey.

"As much as our primary [focus] is campus, we are a huge resource to the community," said Babey.

Pride consists of 40-50 active members, estimates Babey. They put on social events, organize discussion groups and work with counseling services to provide peer support. Their office, located across from the Resource Centre in the SUB, also houses a wealth of resources, including books and DVDs.

"Our main concern is advocating for students on campus who are exploring sexuality or having troubles with discrimination," said Babey.

Currently Pride receives $0.50 per semester from each full-time student's UVSS fees. This money goes toward putting on events and providing volunteers with training to make the Pride office more accessible to new people.

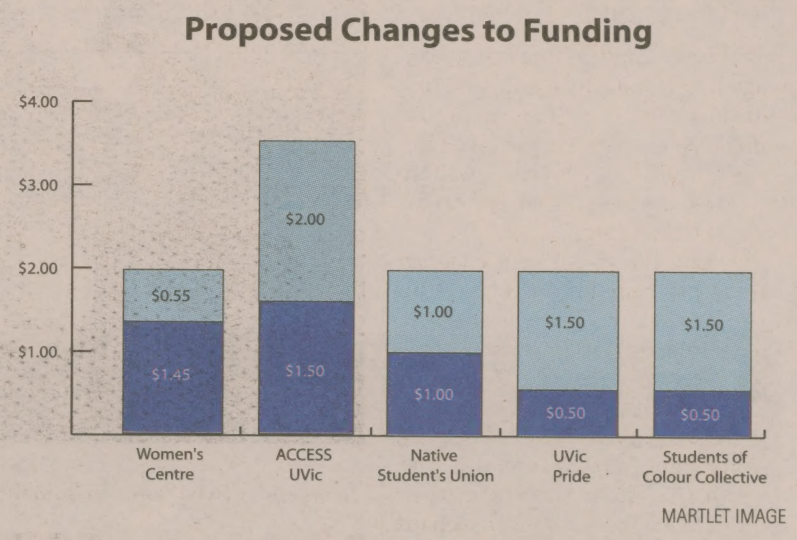
"We're sort of taking a big leap from how [Pride] was managed for the last two years," said Babey. "But with that energy, we're starting to run out of the current budget."

The extra $1.50 Pride will receive if the referendum is successful will help the group host next year's Canadian Universities Queer Services Conference, where pride groups from across the country will come together at UVic to brainstorm. The money will also support providing more counseling training, help Pride's efforts to ensure queer issues are represented on campus and enhance the interaction between Pride and UVic's other advocacy groups.

The Women's Collective

As the main organizing body for the SUB's Women's Centre, the Women's Collective deals with the day-to-day operation of the centre.

The collective organizes events and volunteers, and produces the feminist anti-racist zine, third-space. Currently, they are working to organize Loudspeaker, an arts festival which will celebrate International Women's Day. The collective also works to help women who require support.



MARTLET IMAGE

Aproximately three quarters of UVic's population are women. Sinead Charbonneau, communications outreach co-ordinator at the Women's Centre, estimates that 15 members of the Women's Collective attend meetings regularly.

Currently, the Women's Collective receives $1.45 per full-time student per semester. The extra $0.55 they would receive if the referendum is successful would be used to increase the number of workshops and anti-oppressive events they currently put on, as well as support a current dialogue concerned with creating an anti-oppressive space and the renegotiation of the Women's Centre's women-only policy.

"We feel that to properly engage with this issue it would be effective to have a small-scale research project," said Charbonneau. "We would be examining how different campuses and community groups across Canada have dealt with going from a women-only space to a women-and-trans space or a gender inclusive space."

The extra money would also give the collective the ability to reassess requests that they have received for funding.

"I think the $2 will definitely put the Women's Collective in a better place to deal with larger issues of gender emancipation on campus and across Victoria," said Charbonneau.

Access UVic

Access helps self-identified disabled students get accommodations and gives advice on having their needs met. They provide sign language classes to all students, speak about the disability movement and organize events.

"Access is run by disabled students for disabled students. We provide advocacy services to disabled students on campus," said Kyla Berry, Access UVic's president. "We're the voice of the disability movement on campus."

Rose Mariana Robb, Access' executive director, estimates that Access represents more than 1,000 students at UVic. She says that Access currently has just over 100 members, with a a core group of approximately 20 who are "very involved with the planning and organization."

In September, Access collected over 3,000 signatures from students to get their referendum question on the ballot. Currently, Access receives $1.50 from each full-time student's UVSS fees each semester.

"We use the money for the sign language classes," said Berry. "We also need to have interpreters to support our deaf community involvement ... we'd like to see more of that. We'd like to have an interpreter at every event, just to show that we're inclusive."

If Access' referendum is successful, their funding will be increased by $2, up to $3.50 per full-time student per semester. Berry said that the increase is necessary to keep Access going in the future.

"The goal is to keep [Access] sustainable once the founders move on," she said. "We want the advocacy centre to be a sustainable, lasting legacy."

The $2 increase would, in part, go toward hiring a paid, part-time co-ordinator as substitute to the current executive director position. Berry said that the honorarium the executive director currently receives is not enough for the amount of work put in.

"We would preferentially hire a person with a disability and that may require an interpreter or special equipment to help them do their job," Berry said.

Berry said that Access is asking for more money than the other advocacy groups because it costs more to run.

"Everything for disabled people is more expensive," she said. "There's no way around it."

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Poverty poll shows welfare supported

Kat Eschner

Public energy and new government accountability could stop rising poverty and homelessness in B.C., according to a report released in December by the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives (CCPA).

Report author Seth Klein finds hope in the polling results on which the report was partially based.

"My sense on this [is] ... people are forlorn about poverty and homelessness," said Klein. "They are ashamed and they wish it wasn't so, but you also encounter this feeling of resignation — that this is the new normal; that nothing can be done."

Many things can and should be done, according to the report, but the most important is government accountability to a series of timelines and targets. Without this, Klein says all other measures may be destined to failure.

"Part of that accountability is having benchmarks in your targets that are frequent enough that governments can be held accountable — minimally within their mandate, if not every year," Klein said.

Of course, government accountability only works if there's someone to be held accountable to. A recent CCPA-sponsored nationwide poll revealed the majority of B.C. residents polled were behind poverty reduction.

"One of the things that emerges [in polling on poverty-related issues] is that we face a bit of an info gap sometimes with the public," said Klein.

Klein said that when a question is prefaced by information, the answer changes.

"We did some polling a few years ago ... on welfare in B.C., and one of the things that emerged is that if you just cold-polled people [and asked] 'should we increase welfare rates?' [responses] were split right down the middle."

He said the 50-50 split changed to 75 per cent for an increase in welfare when the respondents were told what welfare rates actually were.

"People think welfare's easier to get than it is and they think it's more generous than it is. And when they hear the truth, they don't like it, because it's dissonant with their values," he said.

Response to the CCPA plan reveals hope for B.C.'s poor and homeless, Klein said.

"If we faced a values gap, that's tough, man, that's tough; that's hard to change. But an information gap? That's not so bad."

Klein puts the onus on concerned citizens and interest groups to make government accountability to a poverty plan a May election issue.

The report was followed by a letter in early 2009 asking for government action, signed by over 200 associations in B.C. including the Vancouver Island Public Interest Research Group (VIPIRG).

The letter can now be seen and signed by members of the public at bcpovertyreduction.ca.

"Once [people] sign on, we're going to be recommending all kind of actions they can take between now and May that are basically about making sure that people tell their candidates this is what they want," Klein said.

JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

In an effort to be more sustainable, YES candidates are handing out apples instead of leaflets.

Team YES goes paper-free

Sam VanSchie

While other slates put paint brush to poster paper to begin their campaign for spots on the next UVic Student Society board, the YES campaign took a different approach.

The four-person slate, which seeks only to occupy the board's paid executive positions, has decided to run a paper-free campaign. The group says it demonstrates a readiness to advocate for change today, rather than waiting for their terms in office to start.

Justine Lavine, the director of finance candidate for YES (which the group says isn't an acronym but an attitude), said that while the team will be at a disadvantage this year because students won't see their names as often, if they are elected, they'll prove that paper-free campaigning works. They'll be using that base to ban paper from future campaigns.

"If nobody is using paper, it levels the playing field so people that want to be environmentally friendly aren't at a disadvantage," Lavine explained.

Electoral policy allocates each candidate a maximum campaign budget of $50 to ZAP copy centre on campus and $25 to spend elsewhere, which YES says makes moving away from paper tough.

They did manage to use some of their ZAP fund to pay for a single laminated poster that lists all their candidates. They'll move this poster to different locations on campus.

"It's better than paper, because we don't have to replace it every time it rains and we won't toss it out after the campaign," said José Barrios who is running for director of services.

They each put their $25 of flexible funds towards buying several cases of green apples from a local farm, which their finance candidate managed to find a good deal on. The team will write their name with marker — don't worry, they used the kid's brand of non-toxic markers — and hand out the fruit in place of leaflets.

"There is a lot of positive symbolism with an apple," said Mehak Mehra, the director of academics candidate. "It says choice and growth and it's a green apple like environmentalism. Those are all things we think we represent."

More than anything, Barrios said he hopes the campaign will show their innovative thinking, which he says students should look for in their elected representatives.

Beyond just a paper-free campaign, the team would like to see elections held online to eliminate paper ballots. The UVic Board of Governors is currently elected by an online vote. The University of Ottawa switched to online voting for their student society elections this year and saw voter turnout jump from 12 per cent to 27 per cent of the student body.

"Anything we can do to make [the UVSS] more accessible to students, that's a good thing," said Barrios.

Even if they don't make it on the board, YES has a backup plan for changing future elections. While they're campaigning, the team will collect signatures on a petition from students who would like to see future campaigns be done without paper and with voting online.

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FAST? BANG? YES? – who are these people?

Kat Eschner

Four students will go head-to-head for the top position in the UVic Student Society Board. The Martlet caught up with the candidates to find out why they want the job.

Kyla Berry

More respect is needed all round at the UVic Student Society, says chair-candidate Kyla Berry.

Berry, a longtime member of Access UVic (the advocacy group for students with disabilities) said the UVSS needs to become a healthier, more effective working environment internally, and a more accessible student service externally.

"It's really important for students to have a voice with the administration," she said. "The student society could be that voice. It could be a very powerful body on campus, and ... make a lot of positive changes."

Strengthening the student society would require consulting on-campus specialists, Berry said. Bodies such as the School of Public Administration have valuable knowledge the society could use.

"The student society is kind of an island of ignorance in a sea of expertise ... I would consult those experts for advice on how to bring the society back to governing respectfully."

Berry said her ability to liaise with UVic administration and other board members is apparent in her work at Access, including work on the 2005 referendum which got the group student fee funding.

"The UVSS office is just around the corner from Access, and I've sat on the board as the Access rep. I've seen how things work with the UVSS," she said.

Berry sat up when asked how she was qualified to run the UVSS. She said talents of co-ordinating things such as technology and people are developed as a result of her disability. Proof of this, she said, was in her work as board rep and activist, which she has balanced with a psychology major for five years.

"I want to leave a legacy behind ... Through Access UVic I've learned about some of the best practices in governing a non-profit society like the UVSS," she said.

Veronica Harrison

"This time, I'm getting pretty close to graduating, and I wanted to take on more of a leadership role," said current Team FAST director-at-large Veronica Harrison.

Harrison originally got involved with campus politics in her first year, with the Political Action Committee.

"It was tons of fun and a great success, and made me appreciate all the work that students can do."

Harrison ran for director-at-large in the 2007 and 2008 elections, winning both times with other members of the Team FAST slate.

Being involved in almost every UVSS committee and working with student needs and the municipalities with a stake in UVic has given her the experience needed for chair, she said.

"Because of all the connections I've made, I'm sure I have a lot of experience for chairperson."

Harrison said she wouldn't want to run with any other slate than Team FAST. She said their values fall in line with hers.

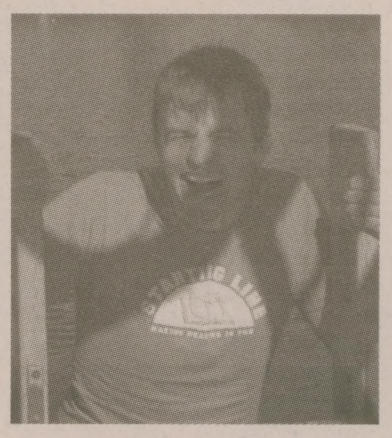
"I'm a really progressive person and a lot of the people I ran with are very progressive."

Changes still need to be made to the UVSS, said Harrison. Communication was high on her priority list, but she said continuing work on housing and transit projects needed to happen.

"I really feel like there're a lot of services that we offer students that they're not aware of, because they don't do their own research, so I think we need to work on outreach," she said.

Just 10 courses stand between Harrison and graduation, as this is her third-year in her political science and psychology double major. If elected, she said she'd probably only take one each term.

"There was psychology offered at our high school ... I took it and just really enjoyed it. Political science, well, I've always been interested in politics," she said.



Ryan Levis

Independent leadership is flexible enough to represent UVic's diverse student viewpoints, according to UVSS chair candidate Ryan Levis.

"There are so many different kinds of people here, and to say that you're only represented by one group is not taking [this] into account," he said.

The single slate focus has caused groups such as fine arts and business students to be neglected, in Levis' view. He said slates put unnecessary barriers between students and student leaders.

Levis also said he'd do things on a different agenda than the current administration.

"I find [the current board's] focus is on environmentalism, which is good, but it's not everything ... One of the quotes I find myself using is, 'what are we trying to save the world for, if millions of people function mostly indoors?'"

Instead, a focus on the human members of the campus is key to his platform, said Levis.

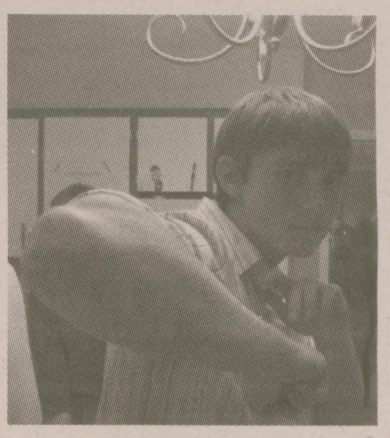
Levis said his knowledge of advertisement design means that he would be able to promote the UVSS nationally with "moxy." Closer to home, he said it would help him market student society campaigns and make the society more accessible to students.

He also said founding the Big Ideas Club, a group that offers to help promote other campus clubs and initiatives, prepared him for the organization involved in running the UVSS.

"I always offer my services as an advertisement design strategist. I try to pitch in and put my ideas forward. I find that they're not always well-received," he said.

Students need to become more engaged with the UVSS, said Levis, and his goal is to facilitate that happening.

"I'd like to spend more time on campus with students, listening to them and talking to them, and seeing what they'd like to happen," he said.



Curtis Smith

"I think I can do the job, first and foremost, and I think I can do the job better than I've seen anyone else do it."

Curtis Smith seemed soft-spoken at first — until he got going. Bold Awesome New Government's (BANG) chair candidate was certainly boldly spoken. He said current UVSS leaders (Team FAST) aren't organized or accountable enough to pull off a third term.

"I don't think the student society is a nightmare right now ... I think this place needs to be run better, though," he said.

The lengthy strike revealed cracks in the current administrative foundation, said Smith. The strike motivated him to get involved with school politics.

"It was in my estimation a fairly decent compromise [that settled the SUB strike], but it shouldn't have taken seven weeks to get there ... you owe students better," he said." You're still getting paid for those seven weeks. You need to reach an agreement faster. It just wasn't good enough."

UVSS transparency also got this candidate's political blood pressure raised. Students should be able to participate easily in their student society, he said.

A fourth-year Political Science student, Smith has worked up to 30-hour weeks while going to school, and also occupying the Undergraduate Politics Society (UPS) presidential seat. With this in mind, he spoke bluntly about the academic and financial difficulties of student life, even for someone not in major loan debt.

"I think I can be a student leader who is empathetic," he said.

Involvement with the Students for Students slate last year (which only managed to elect two candidates to the current board) taught Smith how not to run a campaign. He said it also forced him to examine what kind of chair he would want to be.

"I don't want to be someone who comes in with a mandate and tries to to take the student society in one direction. I want to be someone who facilitates a student society for students where they can all feel welcome and engaged, and like they want to participate in it."

CHAIR DEBATES

The chair candidates debate will be held at 1 p.m. on March 2 in the Cinecenta, where candidates will be asked students' questions which were previously submitted to the Martlet and CFUV.

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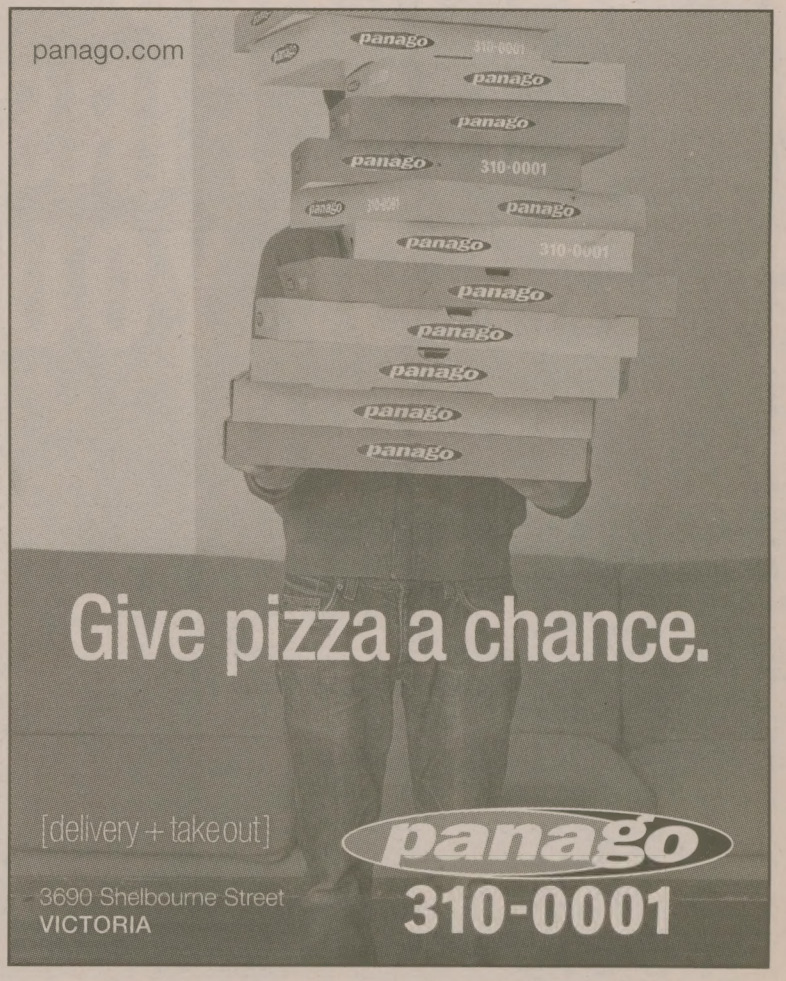


This week in Martlet history

Feb. 25, 1965 — The SUB Expansion Committee considered incorporating "necking nooks" into their design recommendations for the new building. Committee Chairman Rick Kurtz investigated the feasibility of creating intimate spaces for couples after psychology profs expressed concern with the high percentage of frustrated students on campus. Nooks would enhance interpersonal relations, an integral part of university life, and need not be private or closed off — just offer special charm, warmth and an atmosphere of beauty.

Stories from the Martlet archives

Feb. 28, 1985 — UVic President Howard Petch boasted about saving $500,000 a year in energy costs over 1974 levels after a significant drop in university energy consumption. The "green" announcement was followed by a commitment to furthering energy savings when the university could afford it by introducing computer-controlled heating and replacing "the huts." Petch reported that M-Hut cost as much as the Begbie Building to heat, but the high heating costs were justified because of its incubator space.

Feb. 28, 2002 — Plans to hold UVSS elections with e-ballots were put on hold due to the risk of instability in the server system. Although programmers had gotten positive results from the newest incarnation of the program, Systems Development Manager of Students Records Systems Kim McGowan said that until the program was tested under live conditions, no one could be sure what would happen. Indeed, attempts at holding electronic voting for the Senate and Board of Governors election the year before resulted in lost ballots when the server timed out.

- Cody Willett

Elections challenge to independents

Kailey Willetts

The UVic Student Society election campaigning is in full swing, and the campus is plastered with posters urging you to vote for Team FAST, BANG, Bold and YES. However, not all candidates join a slate. A few choose to run as independents, despite their anticipated challenges.

This year, two independents sit on the UVSS board – directors-at-large Dylan Hardie and Ahmed Mumeni. The rest of the board is composed of a Team FAST majority and a Students for Students (now disbanded) minority.

Independents face the challenge of running alone. They don't have the rest of their slate behind them to help promote and spread the word. Traditionally, they compose one or two members of the board.

"I ran last year as an independent. I went for director-at-large; I didn't do particularly well," said second-year student Ryan Levis. "Last year I lacked persistence."

This year, Levis is running as an independent chair candidate. He thinks persistence will be the key to overcoming an independent's challenges, along with "moxy, message [and] kahones."

"It's going to be tough putting up with all of the massive amount of leafleting going on," said Levis, who intends to raise awareness for his campaign through demonstrations at the fountain and "really flashy" advertising. "I don't think that's enough but, yeah, I'm hoping to stand out."

Hardie, who is running for director-at-large again, says this election will be even more challenging for independent candidates.

Hardie said recent changes to electoral policy that allow slates to include all of their members' names on campaign material will make independent campaigning even harder.

Hardie says with the new rules, a candidate running with a slate could theoretically have their name on 56 banners, 700 posters and thousands of handouts, while an independent can have the four banners, 50 posters and fewer handouts allotted to a single candidate.

"[The election] is a lot more stacked in terms of slates than it was last year," said Hardie.

Hardie says one example is Bold, a two-person slate, which was formed when the candidates realized the advantages of running as a slate.

Hardie even considered a slate.

"I wouldn't have been opposed to doing a three or four-person slate, but I didn't want to join a big one."

Hardie said he is lucky that he is fairly well known on campus, but that lesser known independents face a tough time promoting their campaigns.

"They may be the best qualified person, but if they don't have these social networks established, they don't have a chance against this type of competition," he said.

The motion that allowed candidates to reference other members of their slate was voted down when it was first presented to the board. Some board members, like Hardie, were opposed to the change because they saw it as an unfair advantage. Other board members, like Team FAST member Brodie Metcalf, voted down the policy on a misunderstanding. Metcalf said he hadn't realized the extent of the issues with the former policy. When the motion was reintroduced in an amended form, it passed.

Despite the challenges, however, Levis and Hardie both maintain there are advantages to having independent candidates.

"I intend to win on the basis that there is so many slates, and you need someone to facilitate their action because their action is essentially good," said Levis.

Levis reckons that Veronica Harrison, chair candidate for Team FAST, is his biggest competition.

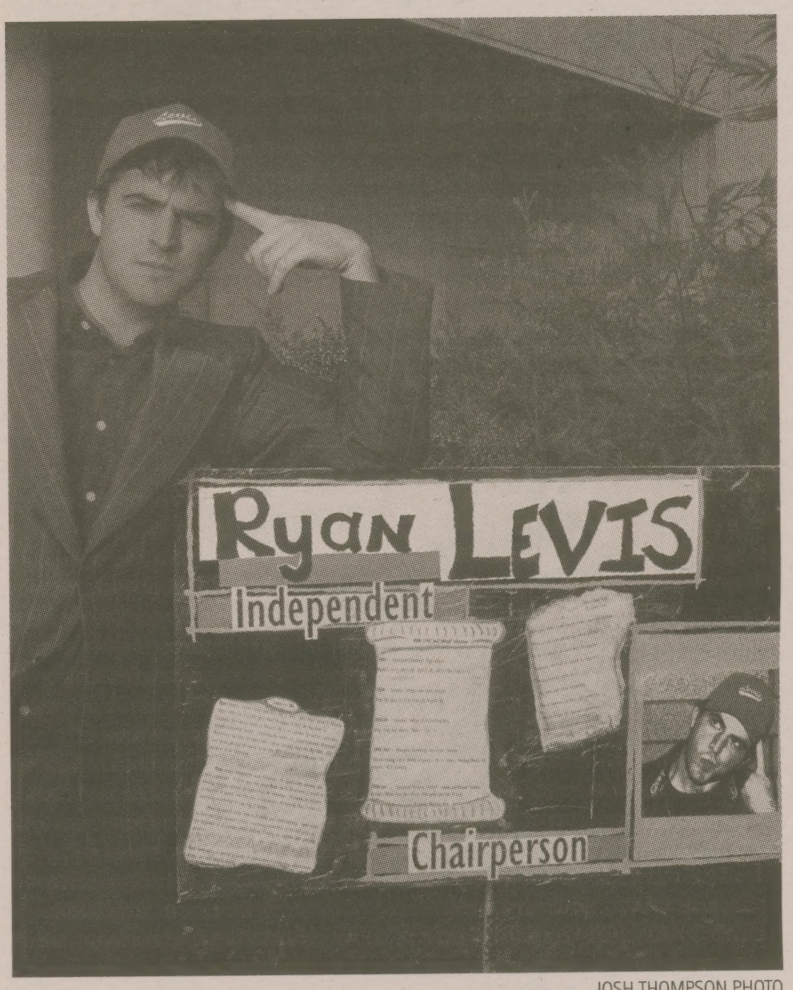
"I think [the members of Team FAST] are all very close knit and they all know each other very well and will support each other to the very end which is good for a slate but bad for a whole school," he said. "I don't feel like I want to toe the line of anybody whispering in my ear what to do. It's a big weakness to have one ideology ruling all the other people."

Hardie thinks that a lot of the other challenges of running as an independent are balanced by the benefits.

"I still believe that if you're good enough at what you do, people will see that," said Hardie. "Typically, if you get an independent elected, it's because they really are that good."

Hardie says that independents truly have to win over the student vote.

"You can't rely on this safety net of friends' friends [as may occur on a slate]," he said.



JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

Ryan Levis hopes to steal attention from slates with his flashy signs.

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Students call for UVSS transparency

Board critiqued for committee appointments

Kailey Willetts

The UVic Students' Society is responsible for electing students to sit on numerous committees, but some believe students outside of the Board of Directors aren't given enough opportunity to fill these spots.

Positions on committees are posted on the board meeting agenda, which the board posts on their bulletin board the Friday before their Monday meetings. While some positions call specifically for a board member, others just require a student to be elected. UVSS Chair Caitlin Meggs says all students are welcome to come to the meetings and run for spots on committees.

"We'd love for more students to come," said Meggs. "We have a hard time getting students to fill every single position because there're so many committees."

> "We have a hard time getting students to fill every single position because there're so many committees."
>
> – Caitlin Meggs, UVSS Chair

Meggs said the board has put posters up for some positions in the past, but mainly they just announce them in their agenda.

"When there're three or four different ... committees per meeting it would be very difficult to put up posters, and I'm not convinced it would have a huge effect," she said.

Often, this results in the board members filling the positions on the committees.

"It is sort of part of our duties to fill those positions because a lot of students might not have the time to give to so many committees," she said.

For example, Meggs said, she is currently sitting on the Presidential Review Committee, which meets twice a week for two hours.

"All the students on the Board of Directors went out and worked hard to get themselves to be elected," she said, explaining that the UVSS is the only democratically-elected group of student representatives on campus.

When committees affect a certain course union, Meggs said that Director of Academics Edward Pullman notifies them.

"When it's department related, we definitely let the course union know so that they can recommend someone if they want to," she said.

However, some students feel these positions aren't always properly advertised. Recently, the UVSS was asked to elect a student to sit on the political science department head hiring committee. Kyle Granger, director of communications with the Undergraduate Politics Society (UPS), didn't feel his course union was properly involved with the selection process.

Granger said the UPS knew the position was coming up, and he was waiting to be contacted about it. But, he said, that notification never came and the only reason the UPS knew about it was because their president, Curtis Smith, was at a board meeting where it was discussed.

"We didn't have a date or time for the event, which was rather frustrating," said Granger. "We were elected from the undergraduate population of [political science students]; it would have made sense that we were involved in the process somewhere along the line."

At the board meeting, four students were nominated for the position on the committee: board members Dylan Hardie, Edward Pullman and Christine Comrie, and general student Jennifer Wizinsky. After each candidate presented, the board elected Comrie.

"Usually they just give a speech, and I guess most of the people at the meeting thought that Christine gave a good speech," said Meggs.

Granger was disappointed by this appointment.

"No one that was tightly involved with the course union or the department on a regular basis [was nominated]," he said.

Pullman said he failed to notify the UPS before the meeting because the department of Political Science sent the request directly to Meggs.

"It was just a miscommunication on both parts," said Pullman, noting that if he had tabled the motion and notified the UPS the committee would have commenced before a student could be elected.

News Reviews

NAY!

A second UVic student has been diagnosed with active tuberculosis and another 90 will receive notification for screening.

The second student was a close family contact of the first student who was diagnosed on Feb 6. TB is spread through the air, but the disease is usually only transmitted when there is close, prolonged exposure to an infected person.

Ongoing clinics have been available at UVic for students who received a letter indicating that they required testing, and a second round of follow-up tests will occur in April.

Tuberculosis can appear gradually, with symptoms including fever, ongoing cough with or without sputum, loss of appetite, weight loss, night sweats or chills.

YAY!

Post-secondary education was one of the few industries spared from cutback when the B.C. Liberal government announced its so-called recession budget.

B.C. colleges and universities will see small funding boosts to encourage funding "green" research, post-secondary infrastructure and the creation of a new law school at Thompson Rivers University.

The budget commits $1.7 billion to capital projects underway at post-secondary institutions, including a science building at the UVic. The budget will leave B.C. in a deficit for 2009.

NAY!

The B.C. government is raising the price of booze. On April 1, the price of spirits such as rum, gin and vodka will increase as the Liquor Distribution Branch increases its "minimum display price." This increase translates into 50 cents per mickey, $1 per two-six, and $2 per forty or $1.33 per litre. In 2008, prices were raised $1 per litre, and in 2006 they increased $1.33 per litre.

Many consumers are frustrated at the price increase, especially in these tough economic times, for a product that is not improving.

The provincial government expects to pocket $7 million from this price increase. Last week's provincial budget projected the liquor distribution branch's net income to rise from $867 million this year to $896 million as sales are expected to increase. NDP critic Mike Farnworth said the government snuck the tax in, ignoring it in the budget.

According to Housing and Social Development Minister Rich Coleman, the government raises prices based on reviews of other rates across Canada.

- Sam VanSchie and Kailey Willetts

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Obama and Harper tread lightly on dirty oil

Cody Willett

MEAGHAN WALTON (CUP) PHOTO

Obama and Harper appeared cooperative on controversial issues at a press conference during the new president's first foreign visit on Feb. 19.

It's not every day a superstar U.S. President makes a whirlwind stop in Ottawa and talks about the environment.

President Barack Obama reinstated the tradition of making Canada the first foreign destination of an incoming president, stopping in Ottawa for a few hours on Feb. 19 with his phalanx of security detail in tow.

Notably, the meeting between President Obama and Prime Minister Stephen Harper featured conversation on energy and the environment in addition to tanking economies, unrestricted trade and border security.

Climate change and struggling efforts to curb greenhouse gas emissions set the backdrop for an uneasy talk about the profile of Albertan tar sands oil. Environmental groups have raised the issue, decrying how "dirty" the oil is in ads taken out in U.S. newspapers.

Obama, with his campaign commitments to put the U.S. on the path to sustainable energy and scale back reliance on foreign oil, has expressed his concerns about the large carbon footprint of Alberta's tar sands crude.

According to UVic political science professor Dennis Pilon, if Obama starts to move on the climate change issue by scaling back U.S. consumption of Albertan oil, things will become difficult for Harper and the Conservatives.

"Obama messes things up a bit for them," Pilon said. "Conservatives want to hug the environment like anyone else, but not if it costs any money — not if it interferes with business."

Pilon points out that if Harper wants a cooperative relationship with a popular leader like Obama, he'll have to go through motions on climate change issues more often if he doesn't actually take steps to address the problem.

However, Obama made no demands on Harper's position on climate change, instead pledging to open up a "clean energy dialogue" and work with Canada on carbon capture and technology that would store emissions underground.

"Obama's not naive," said Pilon. "He knows that the oil sands in Alberta represent not just a significant part of the Canadian economy, but a significant part of the conservative coalition in this country."

Pilon suggested that both leaders have complex political interests and coalitions to manage. Obama knows that Harper doesn't have a lot of room to manoeuvre on promoting Alberta's tar sands oil to America unless he were to turn his back on his Albertan base of support.

But Obama's main reason for coming to Canada was to establish a good working relationship with a prime minister he'll have to work with, said Pilon. He said it's also worth recognizing that Obama has his own complex coalition to manage.

"The America that wants clean energy is also the America that wants cheap energy," said Pilon.

Pilon predicts that as Canadians feel U.S. pressure to act on the environment, they may bounce the Conservatives from power, seeing as the conservative coalition of oil industry supporters and business leaders are struggling in an economy that's not assured of a speedy recovery.

For the time being, Harper must balance the competing priorities of assuring a market for tar sands oil with the challenge of designing and implementing policies to promote "green" energy.

Pilon said that in his own way, Obama was talking past Harper to Canadians who want to see stronger action on the environment.

"Harper just had to not fall on his face," Pilon said.

Wanted: Canadian spies to help save the world

Stuart Armstrong

You could march in the streets or attend rallies to try and save the world. Or, you could stop terrorist attacks and bring international war-criminals to justice as part of the Canadian Security Intelligence Service (CSIS).

On Feb. 11 and 12, the David Strong Building was the hub of over 40 UVic students interested in joining the mysterious world of Canadian intelligence. Seminars were led by Brent Hoag, the Pacific Region Chief of CSIS, and his colleague, Anandeep Bains, from the CSIS Human Resource section in Vancouver.

The two rattled off a varied list of experience before coming to CSIS — Hoag being a former teaching student, bank manager and Toronto police officer, while Bains earned a double major in Middle East History and Political Science from SFU.

Hoag described the world of CSIS, its 25-year history and the "real" threats to Canada, outlining the Armenian assassination of a Turkish ambassador in 1982, the attempted bombing of Los Angeles International Airport in 1999 by Al-Quada terrorist Ahmed Ressam, the Chinese espionage that lead to the Redberrie, and the attempted terrorist attacks on Parliament in 2006; their sole failure being the Air India Attack in 1985, when 329 Canadians were killed.

Hoag also outlined CSIS's main responsibilities as being counter-intelligence, counter-proliferation of technology, counter-terrorism and stopping foreign interference in Canadian affairs.

"I could spend days telling you what foreign interference is, but to put in a way that is relative to UVic ... say a protest group is getting good press on a country's activities and they take notice. Then, that country sends an intelligence officer to enroll as a student here and joins that group ... then after making friends gets on the executive, all the while creating dossiers on each of the members," he said. "Then, the next year, he gets elected president ... and then says 'you know guys, we've done a good job ... but there is this other thing we should be moving on now' ... and I would bet you would all say 'okay pal, let's do it.' And that is just on the student level."

Hoag stated that in order to join CSIS as an intelligence officer, one needs to have an undergraduate degree (though surveillance officers only require a two-year diploma), along with a full driver's license. Applicants should also have spent the last 10 years living in Canada (though they're flexible), and be able to pass a background check of 10 years (or until age 16) in order to reach clearance — along with passing a polygraph and a one-year clean drug test during the initial screenings. Along the way the applicant also has the chance to meet with a junior intelligence officer or surveillance officer for a one-on-one Q&A session.

Hoag emphasized the need for honesty in the questioning period.

"We are very good at finding things out ... if we find out you've been lying, you've shown you aren't trustworthy and you are gone," he said.

After the screening processes, all recruits are given a call or a letter with a job offer. They are then given language training in a second language at a private school ("they have had excellent results" says Bains). Candidates are then transported to a 23 to 24-week training program where the trainee is given the basic tradecrafts of spying, including resisting interrogation, surveillance and counter-surveillance, analysis of data into intelligence and training in advanced driving — enabling the driver to smash through barriers or sideswipe pursuing cars if need be. All this is followed by a five-year probation of on-the-job training at CSIS headquarters in Ottawa. All the while the trainee is under a starting salary of $50,000 per year.

As to what types of jobs an intelligence officer might have, Hoag spoke confidently.

"Within your CSIS careers you will have at least 10 to 12 jobs, ranging from counter-intelligence, to working overseas to counter-terrorism," he said. "Though I will guarantee you will be working counter-terrorism at some point."

Hoag emphasized that while CSIS takes all kinds, a lot goes into becoming a sucessful candidate.

"The whole point of the [application] process is to determine what type of person we are dealing with ... we're looking for interpersonal skills, investigative, oral communicative and social skills, a sense of others and maturity, and tolerance of others, along with a knowledge of the service and the CSIS Act," Hoag said. "It is always good to be a news junkie from a lot of different sources too."

Meanwhile, Bain underlined the importance of enthusiasm.

"What makes a good applicant is someone who is passionate about the position," said Bains. "The more motivation, the more you will know and the more likely you will do well on the review boards."

For more information, contact the B.C. Region Human Resource Department at 604-528-7413, or visit csis-scrs.gc.ca.

CALL FOR PARTICIPANTS

Are you a UVIC student with a learning disability? If so, then we'd like to hear from you!

We're researching adult literacy and how extended time benefits your writing. The study involves one 90-minute session where you'll be doing language and literacy tasks. A small honorarium will be provided, and you'll gain some feedback on your current reading and writing skills.

Please contact Dr. Gina Harrison at (250)721-7819 or harrison@uvic.ca for more information and to participate.

EDITORIAL

UVSS fails to let outsiders in

Every year when elections for the UVic Students' Society Board of Directors rolls around, students are faced with a big question: what the heck does the UVSS do, and why should I give a crap? Most students have no idea what the UVSS does and, as a result, voter turnout usually hovers somewhere between an abysmal five to 15 per cent.

Besides managing a sizable budget generated through student fees and overseeing the business operations of the Student Union Building, the UVSS has an important function: they appoint student representatives to university committees.

UVic is full of committees. There are committees to review university policies, committees to develop new Internet services and committees to hire department chairs and faculty deans. Whenever UVic needs a student to sit on a committee, they go to the UVSS board. That makes sense; we elect students to the UVSS board to conduct business on our behalf.

The problem is, the UVSS doesn't always appoint students to committees in a responsible manner.

The board accepts nominations for students interested in participating, and then votes on which nominee to put on the committee. While that may sound reasonable, there are significant flaws with this process.

Committee vacancies aren't advertised to students. Technically, students could view the agenda for UVSS meetings ahead of time to see if there are any committee vacancies being voted on that interest them — except the UVSS doesn't overtly post their agendas before meetings. Even the Martlet, which regularly covers UVSS meetings, has to request an agenda before each meeting to find out what's coming up.

By not advertising committee vacancies, the UVSS is essentially restricting student representation to only those who know someone on the UVSS board, or are on the board themselves. Some committee seats even sit empty for months because their vacancies aren't advertised.

Sometimes, the UVSS will consult the university or a course union for nominations to a committee, but that's not always the case. For example, when a student was needed to sit on a committee to hire a chair for the political science department, the UVSS could have gone to the Undergraduate Politics Society (UPS) to get nominees. But rather than let political science students vote on a nominee through the UPS, the board voted on nominees themselves — so it's no surprise they elected a UVSS executive board member to the committee, rather than the choice of political science students.

UVSS chair Caitlin Meggs told the Martlet that the UVSS board is in a better position to choose students to sit on committees because the board is elected by students, whereas some course unions are not elected. However, unelected course unions are the exception rather than the rule, and the university's 40-plus course unions are more in touch with their department's student body than the UVSS is.

Having student voices on university committees is important. Committees that hire deans and departmental chairs are responsible for significant decisions, and it is essential that vacancies are chosen democratically. Instead, the UVSS deals with committee vacancies behind a cloak of secrecy.

There is a simple solution.

Committee vacancies can be advertised on the UVSS website, on a bulletin board in the SUB and in the Martlet. Heck, the UVSS could even post agendas of its meetings online, so students can find out what will happen at upcoming meetings.

Perhaps it could even post minutes after meetings, so that students can find out what happened. Right now, the UVSS doesn't have any agendas or meetings on its website. That kind of secrecy is not how a democratic organization should operate.

It's time that the UVSS stop acting in a bubble. Students should know when a committee that affects them has a vacancy, and the UVSS shouldn't assume they know better. It's time to step up to the plate of democracy.

Editorial topics are decided on by staff at our weekly editorial meeting at 12:30 p.m. every Friday in the Martlet office (SUB B011). Editorials are written by one or more staff members and are not necessarily the opinion of all staff members.

UVSS' CLOAK OF SECRET DEALINGS

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

LETTERS

A tribute to Michael Cullen

It's 8:30 in the morning. We're sitting in another uncomfortable seat in McLauren, waiting for another tedious English class to start: "Technical Communication: Written and Verbal." It sounds riveting.

In walks another typical English professor: bald, grey, frazzled and late. Slowly making his way up to the front of the class, he turns to us, flashes a grin and says, "I bet you, I can get my gum in the garbage can from here." Not so typical after all.

Thus began our journey to "perfect," not only in the way we wrote, but in the way we acted and thought of the world. From the evil of "um," to the power of nothing, he provided the only English class we were always excited to attend. His speeches on topics such as "Twoo Luv," "Horation-Oration" and "Having a nice day" still ring in our ears as if they were spoken yesterday.

The late professor Michael Cullen had a unique approach to teaching that personally engaged students. Always cheerful, always smiling, always enthusiastic: this is how we remember Michael Cullen. His classes were inspirational and, to those of us for whom English didn't come naturally, a revelation.

Every class was a new adventure — just the way he wanted. Cullen, as most students called him, really cared about his students' success. Whether it was applying for scholarships, furthering their education, working on a presentation for work, or just another class project, he was always available and excited to go above and beyond.

A year later, we still find ourselves sharing jokes from his class, discussing our memories of him, and returning to the concepts he taught. We were lucky to have Michael Cullen as a professor, and we send our condolences to all his friends, family and those who undoubtedly miss him. Here's to you, Professor.

Aidan Elkin, Jake Moffatt and Russell Murray
UVic Students

In the name of diversity

I am becoming discouraged by the aggressive and oppressively liberal attitude of UVic. It seems the only point of view that is accepted is a hard left wing ideology on issues. To voice anything else seems to be right wing, conservative, Bush/Harper loving, privileged, racist, religious fanatical, intolerant, homophobic, white male rhetoric.

It is unsettling how my voice is automatically discounted as I am of an "oppressive bigoted background" being a white heterosexual male. People have this anger towards what I am, as if I have personally mistreated them. I should not have to feel anxious about expressing my ideals in discussion in class. A university is supposed to be a place where one can express themselves and learn from others' point of views, not a stifling and narrow-minded environment.

I am also trying to understand this venomous anger towards anything other than the left ideological standpoint. It seems if someone wanted to support McCain in the American election, they would have stones thrown at them and their intelligence and humanity questioned.

As an intellectual institute I would hope that we would be mature enough to listen to each other and try to understand each others' point of view. Plurality of ideas should be celebrated, not extinguished. I'm sure someone will respond to this saying "all we learn is white male propaganda" and "conservative mindsets are oppressive and intolerant and have no place in a university" and that's fine. I respect your right to voice your opinion and understand your point of view. All I am asking is that same courtesy.

Jeff Lemus
UVic Student

Get back to work, whiners

In response to Craig Ashbourne's commiserating article for the striking TA's at York University, CUPE local 3903, I'm wondering where he gets off.

The government is forcing them back to work, and well it should be.

I don't claim to be all knowing about the situation, but I do know their main complaint is not getting enough money, even though they have the best Collective Agreement in the country. They're getting paid $30 per hour, while us grad students here at UVic suck a measly $23. They have all sorts of added benefits that we don't have, namely: sick leave, jury leave, maternity leave, etc.

So I say shut up and get back to work. You're shitting where you eat.

Christopher K. Rowan
UVic student

Burma situation complicated

The article "Panties Combat Burma Military" leaves the impression that there is a "human rights" or "democracy" problem isolated within the borders of Burma.

In reality, the ethnically diverse peoples living in Burma are utilized as a slave labour resource; this is completely tolerated and accepted by the international community for two reasons; one is economic and the other is political.

Canadian corporations invest in Burmese industries (oil, gas, transport and trade). NGO's operating there do so under the direction and watch of the SPDC.

Burma's economic ties to China and India as well as their membership in regional economic partnerships all function to legitimize the SPDC as the rulers of Burma.

Secondly, the situation is tolerated because settler nations like Canada are fully aware of the dangers of calling out other nations for their abuses of indigenous peoples when we still maintain rigid assimilationist policies towards the indigenous peoples here; not to mention an illegal refusal to accept that indigenous peoples in North America have political and economic rights.

We are much more complicit in the problems of both Burma and Canada than anyone cares to admit; for they arise from the racist imperialism of development and liberal democracy.

Joshua J. Smith
UVic student

Happy? Sad? Enraged? Engaged?

Tell us: letters@martlet.ca
The Martlet has an open letters policy and will endeavour to print every letter received from the university community. Letters must be submitted by e-mail, include your real name and affiliation to UVic, and have "Letter to the editor" in the subject line. Letters must be under 200 words and may be edited.

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Mike Edel, Jennifer Gait, Philippe Granger, David Karp, Steve Lancashire, Kelly Marshall, Alison Wagner, Jonathon Wolsey

Contributors
Stuart Armstrong, Adam Bard, Meghan Bell, Gord Duff, Andrew Farris, Marcel "Felix" Giannelia, Jordan C. Hanford, Eric Hertz, Sol Kauffman, Marri Knadle, Tanysia Komers, José Romelo Lagman, Matt Lundy, Kiran McKee, Patrick Murry, Auden Cody Neuman, Glen O'Neill, Kevan Ramsden, Cole Roche, Curtis Smith, Matt Smith, Tom Spreen

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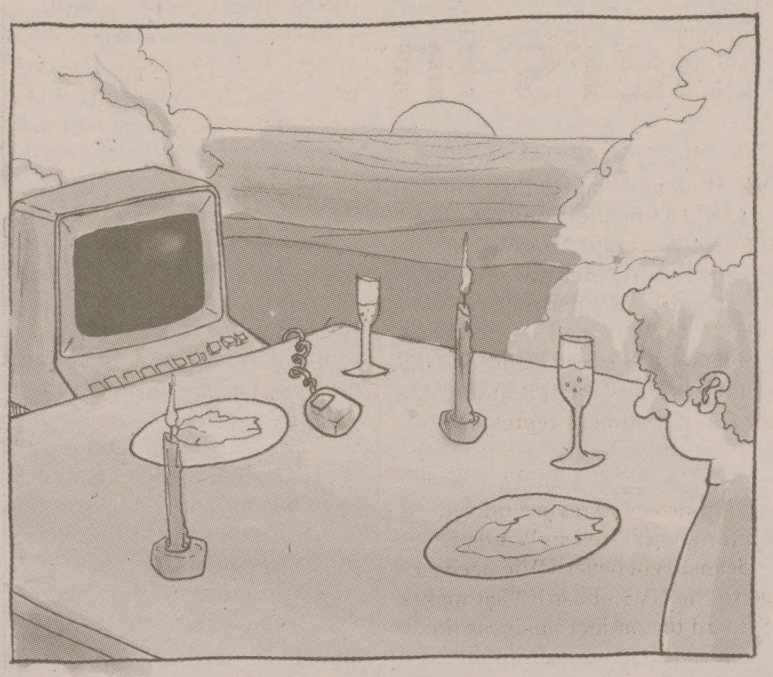
Martlet (SUB B 011)
P.O. Box 3035
University of Victoria
Victoria, B.C. V8W 3P3

Newsroom: 250.721.8360
Editor: 250.853.3206
Business: 250.721.8361
Advertising: 250.721.8359
Fax: 250.472.4556
www.martlet.ca

MELODRAMATIC MUSINGS

The perils of online dating

Will Johnson



MARC JUNKER GRAPHIC

A few years ago, I went on a date with a nursing student. She was friendly and cute, and she seemed to enjoy hanging out with me. After dinner, we went for a walk on White Rock Beach and I kissed her.

"I've never kissed anyone on the first date," I told her.

It was the truth. We walked hand-in-hand, and I was hyped about the entire situation. When we got back to my car, I leaned in for another smooch.

"You're beautiful, Lindsay," I said.

"What?" she asked, breaking off.

"I said you're beautiful."

"You called me Lindsay. My name is Laura."

And that was the end of our first date. I tried to laugh, make it a joke. But Laura didn't find it particularly funny, and demanded to be driven home immediately. I've made some pretty enormous faux pas over the course of my single life, but that was definitely the worst.

This, my friends, is the peril of online dating.

I'm not especially proud of it, but a couple of years ago I decided to give internet match-making a shot. It started pretty harmlessly with Hot or Not, but eventually I had created a profile for myself on Plentyoffish.com.

"Just looking for a nice guy" or "Let's have some fun" read different banners, where eligible young girls had posted pictures of themselves and short blurbs about their most attractive qualities.

All you have to do is enter your postal code, what kind of person you're looking for, then search away.

The online dating industry has become a global powerhouse — a multimillion dollar business. Sites like eHarmony, Lavalife and Plentyoffish have capitalized on lonely singles everywhere and have become a permanent fixture in North American life.

A recent survey of 3,000 North American men and women found that 39 per cent of men and 30 per cent of women have tried online dating to find a special someone.

Since the beginning of the economic crisis, online dating websites have grown between 10 and 50 per cent according to Joe Tracy, publisher of Online Dating Magazine. It seems people are looking for someone to help them get through the hard times.

> "Since the beginning of the economic crisis, online dating websites have grown between 10 and 50 per cent."

But isn't it still a little weird? When you tell your children the story of how you met their mother, do you really want to say you met online?

I was weary at first, figuring I'd really be chatting with the 50-something Internet pedophiles everyone always seems to be worried about.

But within a couple weeks I'd been chatting with some wicked girls, and I was excited about the prospects. At some points I was chatting with several at once (hence my ultimate confusion with Lindsay/Laura). I had a couple short-lived relationships with some fun people, but then decided it was more trouble than it was worth.

The thing was, I was always sheepish about telling my friends. I'd concoct scripts with my new paramour, taking time to make sure we got our stories straight: "oh, she worked with my sister," or "we met in Chapters, if you can believe that."

It just felt a little desperate to me. But thinking of it, what better way is there to meet someone? If you don't have an office hottie to flirt with and you're not into the whole club thing, where and when are you supposed to meet people?

Online, you click on someone's profile and instantly know all kinds of important information: whether or not they want kids, whether or not they smoke and what they're doing for a career. Hell, you could even Google them or look them up on Facebook. Why not?

I might still be on the fence about the whole thing, but one thing is clear: online dating is around to stay, like it or not.

LETTERS

Update on the UVSS

I would like to clarify some misinformation, in regards to Kyle Bienvenue's letter (Shame on UVSS, Feb.12).

When we learned that Caitlin Meggs had missed a meeting, we contacted the City of Victoria and found out there had been a clerical error, as she was scheduled to appear at a later date.

The UVSS met with the Victoria City Council on Feb. 18 and received continued support for our WE RIDE Transit campaign.

The UVSS met with the Esquimalt Council, Saanich Transportation Committee, Mayor of Victoria Dean Fortin and Mayor of Oak Bay Chris Causten to talk about transit issues. We are in the process of booking meetings with the Oak Bay and Saanich City Councils. We are scheduled to meet with the Victoria Regional Transit Commission on March 10 to present our proposal.

The UVSS works tirelessly to advocate for an accessible post secondary education system.

It is unfortunate that the Martlet doesn't regularly cover the work of the UVSS so that students like Kyle can be more informed.

I encourage students to contact your elected directors if you have questions or about campaigns that we are working on. Get involved with these campaigns by stopping by the SUB, e-mailing us directly or going to our new website www.uvss.uvic.ca.

Tracy Ho
Director of Finance
UVSS

I am not a bigot

Mohamed Ghilan persists in claiming he is motivated by strictly humanitarian motives in his concern for innocent women and children killed in the Gaza conflict, but only Palestinian women and children. Those who want to talk about Palestinian provocations in the form of badly aimed missiles falling on Israel, he dismisses for talking politics when the innocent are dying.

Whatever Hamas has done in the way of provocation can't be counted, says Ghilan, because "what else was expected from a people being subjected to the most humiliating conditions?"

Well, they could try to live in peace with their neighbours, for starters. It's surely the Palestinian leadership and the Arab world who have kept the Palestinians in this state. What Ghilan keeps dismissing is also called international law. Under it, if Hamas bombs Israel from Gaza, Israel is entitled to bomb back. Ghilan calls Israel's bombing disproportionate. Perhaps he would suggest what would be a proportionate amount of bombing. In fact, the proper amount of bombing is the amount that gets Hamas to stop with the missiles.

Another letter writer recently called me a bigot. I notice he didn't dispute anything I said, just called me names. So does he deny that Hamas, if it possessed the capacity to bomb Israel more accurately, would hesitate for a second?

Steve Weatherbe
UVic alumni

Well done, Martlet

Regarding the "Big banks funding dirty project," article in Feb. 4 issue, thank you to the Martlet for publishing this article as well as to the Dogwood Initiative and the Raincoast Action Network for revealing the truth about the environmentally degrading projects our major banks are funding.

I am now planning on switching from RBC to a bank such as Vancity, though I would be quicker to do so if UVic had a Vancity ATM somewhere on campus so I could easily take out cash to buy produce at the SUB farmers' market.

It is also worth noting that along with RBC, another company listed as one of the "Global 100: Most Sustainable Corporations in the World" and which is also on the Dow Jones Sustainability Index, is Enbridge. These rankings are laughable when considering that Enbridge is one of the companies vying to build the Edmonton-Kitimat pipeline which will bring near-daily oil tankers through our fragile northern coastline.

Ivan Marko
UVic student

YPY's funding is restored

We applaud the recent decision by the clubs council to restore funding to Youth Protecting Youth (YPY).

The decision coincided with a letter sent out by the Canadian Civil Liberties Association (CCLA) to student unions across the country condemning the move to disqualify pro-life clubs through suppression of freedom of speech and association. A few student governments are explicitly mentioned as having acted in such a manner, including the one at the University of Victoria. The CCLA calls on these governments to grant equal rights to pro-life clubs and to petition the Canadian Federation of Students to rescind its resolution of support for the denial of such rights. They warn that universities and student governments should not take an ideological position on matters such as abortion as "the moment [they] depart from the principle of institutional neutrality on such questions, they incur a considerable risk that raw power will determine the scope of permissible campus speech."

As many in general society are unwilling to discuss a life-changing decision that can suddenly and unexpectedly confront them, universities should take the lead in promoting and generating rational discourse on abortion by including all viewpoints within the debate.

By giving a voice to the view that life at all stages of development is valued equally, students can make a better-informed choice on this fundamental issue of human rights.

Joel Culina
YPY Vice-President

Editor's note: at a UVSS board meeting on Feb. 23, the board voted to recognize YPY as a club but chose not to grant it funding.

We need online voting for campus elections

Curtis Smith

I follow all sorts of elections — municipal, provincial and federal. But I have a particular fetish for student elections, as they break all sorts of trends. Student voters generally are not rational, and have little vested interest in the outcome. Many are blissfully ignorant of what they are voting for and what the people they elect actually do.

Another way student politics is different: at no other level of elections is cheating such a viable option. The general rule for elections in a "first past the post" system like the one this campus uses is, one person, one vote. Well, for many, the UVSS elections could mean one person, one dozen votes.

This current board has failed to address the biggest loophole in election policies. Currently, it would be easy for me to vote and after the sticker on card is scratched, simply go to University Center and get a new one. And, in the worst case scenario, spend $10 to get a new card issued. This process is easy to do, and could lead to a significant skewing of the results. Now some might say, "will me voting four extra times really change results?" Simply put? Yes.

Based on the "unofficial" results of the last election, found on the UVSS website, George Robinson lost to Christine Comrie by a mere 40 votes, which is 10 people voting four extra times. Not to say that happened, but it could have — and we'd all be none the wiser.

This problem has a simple solution. UVic already has employed the "webvote" system, which allows students to vote online via their netlink ID. Everyone has only one netlink ID, and each one is open to only one student number. Not only would this solve the problem of multiple votes, but it would accomplish something profoundly sustainable: eliminating paper ballots.

Those of you sadistic enough to follow last year's election campaign recall the word sustainability was at the foundation of the platform for most of this current board's campaign. One may notice that the current board has changed exactly nothing in the UVSS's policies or in the SUB to make it more sustainable (although a seven-week strike probably saved waste).

I am offering the current board a way to be sustainable and fair: implement a webvote for the UVSS.

Polling stations would still be in place, equipped with laptops, and so many electoral problems would be solved. Not only would paper be saved, but ballot counting would be faster and more accurate, and controversy would be eliminated.

There is no reason this could not be done, and every reason why it should be.

Canadian forces and protesters find peace

Stuart Armstrong

It had all the hallmarks out of an old 1970's dystopian film: protestors holding banners, crowds of arguing passersby and the presence of members of the armed forces providing information on a university campus. But this situation had a twist — the armed forces weren't as annoyed or rude as their stereotype suggested.

The protest happened in the Student Union Building during the February Career Fair, but while the event has long past, the fact remains that strong statements can be made peacefully.

"Find your fit" was the slogan of the fair, yet the military protest consisted of five students carrying a red banner and red dye on their hands, handing out leaflets in front of the Canadian Forces information booth where a chief petty officer second class and an Air Force captain were patiently answering questions from students.

"What better place to show a balance of opinions but here?" asked Shannon Lucy from Students for a Democratic Society. "We're here to protest the military presence on campus ... because lots of students feel that during a recession joining the Canadian Forces is an option — it's called the poverty draft."

Lucy's most poignant question was aimed at Prime Minister Stephen Harper's government: why is Canada spending money on the war in Afghanistan when it can help support people at home?

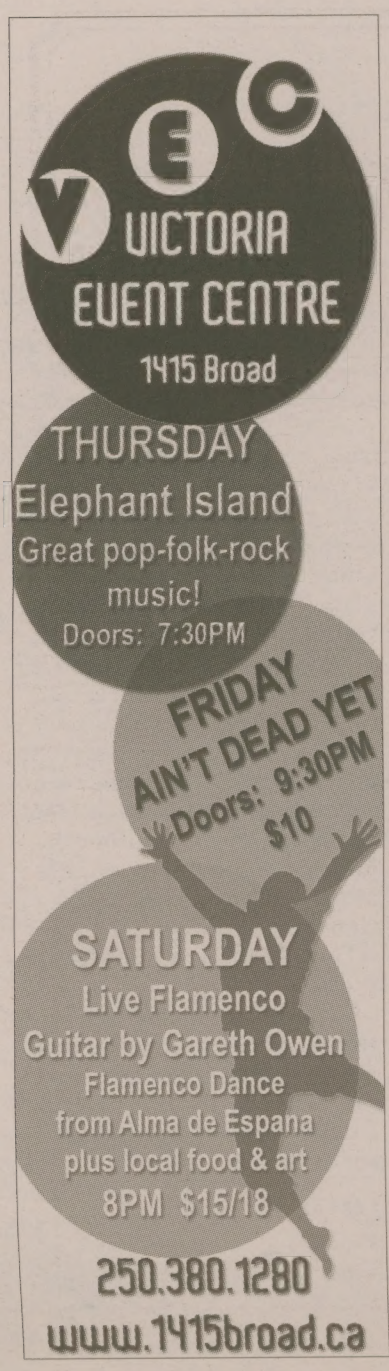
Captain Bill Michael, the Detachment Commanding Officer for the Canadian Forces Recruitment Centre, was watching the protesters calmly when asked about his feelings concerning their presence.

"I think it is great for a student population to stand for what they believe in," he said. "Most students are characterized as being terribly apathetic, but these people have the conviction to stand and protest. It is great that we live in a country were people not only can voice their opposition to something but do, and do it publicly."

> "I think it is great for a student population to stand for what they believe in."
>
> – Captain Bill Michael

The protest continued until the end of the day. Campus Security stayed close to monitor if things were going all right. They were, and there were no incidents — just lively debate between the protesters and students visiting the booths.

I had the interesting experience of debating with the protesters on the merits of a completely pacifist society in the face of a globe that doesn't always operate that way, and of the legitimacy of government. Though no victory was achieved by either side, no converts to either opinion, I agree with Michael that it speaks to the condition of civil liberties in this country when there are completely peaceful protests to stark opposing view points.



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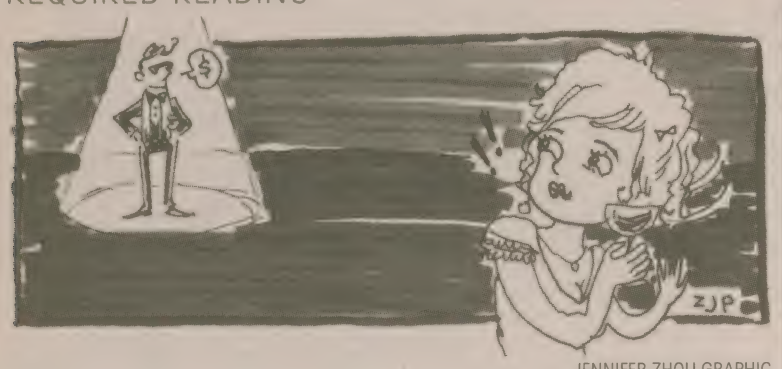

JENNIFER ZHOU GRAPHIC

Do me financially

Tanysia Komers

I had never really thought about money before. At least not until last Christmas, when I received what I tacked up to be a second-rate gift from my parents. Unwrapping a thin, rectangular object that I was secretly hoping would turn into my own personal Cabana boy, I pulled out a book entitled "Making More Dough."

Great. Thanks 'rents. It's not likely I would ever be raking in much cash at any rate with a Bachelors of Fine Arts, so what was there to increase?

Still, curiosity finally pushed me to crack the book and suddenly I was nose deep in a chapter explaining how to cut bank fees. And I was loving every word. Had I actually been spending at least three whole dollars every time I withdrew from a street corner ATM? Appalling. Could I really make $10 a month in interest on my savings account? Certainly.

Reveling in what was sure to be new-found affluence, I would walk into the mall, coffee shop, or the local grocery store with just that much more confidence. I would buy that half-price tomato sauce and be able to afford it, goddamn it.

Turns out my new book was just as satisfying as I had been dreaming. Hell, I was even feeling hotter at the bar. Money is sexy, after all.

I could keep myself well hydrated without having to rely on the guys that sidle my way and offer to buy me whatever I'm feeling any given night — not that this was generally an issue, considering how long I've been perfecting my approach to pre-drinking and normally had a bottle of wine safely emptied at home. Being able to strut around in thriftily acquired designer jeans, brand new heels and picking up not the $10, but the $16 wine left me feeling self-reliant, in control and with more assurance than is healthy for someone who already makes a career out of her confidence.

Nonetheless, when I accepted a tequila shot from a rather nondescript young man a few weeks into my new fiscal plan, I couldn't help but wonder why there was something about his swank that had piqued my interest and had me suddenly giving him the once-over.

I remembered, though, an encounter I'd had with a guy who I'd chalked up as my type only to have him spend three quarters of our (very brief) chat drunkenly boasting about how he had barely been able to afford cover that night. It then came to me that it was these shows of financial security (or lack thereof) that had caught my attention.

Dad the ecologist would explain this away as my biological inclinations to find a well established man, but I'm sure it can be broken down to the simple fact that money is hot. If I feel like the meager dollar or two I'll be putting into my savings makes me powerful enough to control my fiscal future, what kind of statement are the shots bought for me and my four girlfriends making?

After all, if he's financially comfortable enough to drop some of his hard-earned cash on me, instincts tell me he's in control and has it together (no matter how disastrous he might turn out to be), and that's fucking sexy — despite my book's enthralling money saving tips.

Obama brings tentative hope

Andrew Farris

Humanity's chances of making it through the 21st century are getting slimmer by the day. The culprit is climate change, which will make huge swaths of the globe virtually uninhabitable and pose a threat to the survival of civilization itself.

Climate change may be the greatest challenge ever faced by the human race and just when we need to be ratcheting up investments in trying to confront it, the implosion of the global financial system is derailing the world economy.

To top off this perfect storm, we now have to try and work through an international system that has been outdated since 1945 and has hardly ever been more insecure. What this means is that as economies unravel and climate change begins to bite, unstable countries will compete for scarce resources. History tells us that competition inevitably leads to war, and in a world armed with enough nuclear weapons to destroy itself several times over, this is not something that bears thinking about.

We have been assured for the past three decades, we have the technology to act on climate change and to replace oil. What has been lacking is the political will and global unity to take up this burden. This is where America comes in.

As the world's largest consumer of oil and emitter of greenhouse gases, the U.S. is the only country capable of providing the global leadership needed in these extraordinary times. Without American participation and leadership to inspire others to act, global action becomes pointless.

And sadly, it would be an understatement to say that America has failed to rise to the occasion. George W. Bush's policies of denying climate change, supporting oil interests, attacking science, obsessing with terrorism and undermining international cooperation have all been dramatically ruinous and short sighted. They can arguably be explained by his belief that the rapture will occur any day now and God will zap the faithful up to Heaven, leaving the rest of the world to burn.

It is not surprising then that the world has greeted the exit of Bush and the inauguration of President Barack Obama with an audible sigh of relief. Obama appears to genuinely care for the long-term fate of our civilization and ran his presidential campaign on hope and change, in desperately short supply lately, and the promise to tackle the tough problems that Bush did his best to ignore or make worse. On climate change, peak oil, nuclear proliferation and international cooperation, Obama is trying to correct course and reassert American leadership.

Obama seriously intends to meet climate change head-on, saying "Now is the time to confront this challenge once and for all. Delay is no longer an option. Denial is no longer an acceptable response."

He is backing up his rhetoric with concrete action, spearheading talks for a new global climate change treaty to succeed the Kyoto Accord and pledging to reduce American carbon emissions 80 per cent by 2050.

The new American president is also acutely aware of looming oil shortages and has made charting the way into a post-oil energy future one of his main goals. A whopping $150 billion of the stimulus package is going to developing renewable energy and billions more for railways and walkable cities. This is the change we need if we are going to survive as a post-oil civilization.

> "The world has greeted the exit of Bush and the inauguration of Obama with an audible sigh of relief."

As for nuclear proliferation, the incoming administration has taken a bold stand, and is seeking a new treaty with Russia to reduce both countries' nuclear stockpiles to 1,000 warheads each, an almost 80 per cent cut. The new president is also reviewing Bush's antagonistic plans for missile defense in Eastern Europe, hopefully heading off what some observers see as a new Cold War brewing with Russia.

So far the rest of the world has shown itself overwhelmingly eager to work with the new American administration and Obama's visit to Canada on Feb. 19 is a case in point. Yet it remains to be seen if he will have the ability to actually stir the rest of the world's governments to act on the greatest test mankind has ever faced.

It won't be long before it becomes clear whether or not these changes will be enough to put the world back on the course towards future prosperity, or if the effort is too little too late.

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My little sister

An adoption story

By Will Johnson

When I told Ashley I was writing an article about her, she asked me what I was going to call it.

"Maybe Pimple Face," I said. "The Adventures of a Really Ugly Girl."

She hit me, as she often does, then promised to never talk to me again. But seriously, she wanted to know, what was I going to call it?

I wasn't sure yet, hadn't thought it through. I've always struggled with titles—but maybe I'd go for something simple. My Little Sister? Or maybe just Ashley?

It better be good, she told me. Better be.

Finding her home

On Nov. 10, 1992, Ashley was born at the Royal Columbian Hospital in New Westminster. She was 10 weeks premature, and weighed four pounds.

Suffering from neo-natal abstinence syndrome, a withdrawal from her fetal cocaine addiction, Ashley spent the first month of her life in a hospital, hooked up to machines. She would later be diagnosed with Fetal Alcohol Syndrome (FAS).

The first two years of Ashley's life are a shadowy mystery. She doesn't have the baby pictures, the memories that many of us have. She can't remember her parents, her house, her life. All she has are bits and pieces of stories from her foster mom, and the random information my parents have picked up along the way.

What we do know is that she spent 22 months with her birth parents before being taken away by the government. These were dark years of neglect, possibly of abuse. Her parents were troubled people, impoverished and addicted to drugs. They lived on the Downtown Eastside of Vancouver.

In September 1994, Ashley was placed in a foster home along with her baby brother, Cody. Their younger sister, Amanda, had been living there since July. Finally, Tyler joined them after his birth in January 1996.

This became her home for the next two years, until my family came along.

There had been some trouble placing the children, as social workers had hoped to keep the four siblings together. My parents, already with their own four children, had originally been considering adopting a sibling group of two. But upon meeting these children, their plans instantly changed.

In early December 1996, the four kids loaded into our large red van and drove home with us. At four years old, Ashley had finally found her home.

Street smart

Some children born with FAS have serious health issues, including epilepsy, developmental delay, organ dysfunction and birth defects. Many who suffer from FAS are unable to live ordinary lives and are forced to bear the burden of their mothers' mistakes.

Ashley doesn't wear any of the outside indications of her mother's addictions and, to the casual observer, she is an entirely normal teenage girl. She likes to hang out with her friends, she goes to school and the walls of her room are plastered with glossy pictures of half-naked men with rippling abs, cowboy hats and tight jeans.

"She looks so normal, but has such struggles," says my mom. "It's almost harder, because people can't see her disabilities."

> Once, Mom overheard Ashley complaining that her birth mother had "messed up" her brain.

Not long after the adoption, my dad made pancakes when the kids woke up. Ashley ate along with everyone else, but a couple of hours later confronted my dad and accused him of skipping breakfast.

"She's so set in her ways, so stuck on her routine, that she couldn't remember eating breakfast. To her, it had to be cereal. If it wasn't cereal, it wasn't breakfast," says my mom.

Poor co-ordination, learning difficulties, lack of imagination, behavioral problems — Ashley disguises them well, but these problems bog her down regularly. She is in a special program in high school, and has been in the same grade as Cody since they began their education, though she is 10 months older.

Once, Mom overheard Ashley complaining that her birth mother had "messed up" her brain. Growing up, we were warned not to use words like "stupid" and "dumb" with Ashley, though these were commonly-used sibling insults. Ashley was particularly sensitive about her intelligence.

Although Ashley may not understand her specific deficiencies, she sees them more as a nuisance in her social life — an obstacle to getting what she wants. One symptom of FAS is a lack of abstract reasoning, and Ashley only understands concrete facts. So, when her lack of mental faculties translates into something tangible (taunting at school, or limited opportunities), she gets upset.

"I'm smart, right?" Ashley asked me once, as we were sitting in the kitchen together while I did my homework.

I told her about my own struggles with math, and explained to her that different people are good at different things. I may not be good at math, but I'm good at writing. She may not be good at school, but she's great at making friends and getting what she wants.

"So, I'm street smart?" she asked.

"Yeah, you are."

Building an identity

Ashley has always been diligent about researching her history, about building her identity. She has a fierce need to understand and control the world around her.

Watching Mom change Tyler's diaper one day, she asked, "Did you do this for me when I was Tyler?"

"No," my Mom explained. "Your first Mommy did that for you."

"My first Mommy?"

First Mommy, Foster Mommy, New Mommy — these were important distinctions for Ashley to make. Of all the children, Ashley was the most preoccupied with titles. Maybe, if she could understand her history, then she could understand her life.

Ashley likes to hear stories about herself, especially stories about her childhood.

Our first Christmas with Ashley, she was confused by all the decorations and excitement. I doubt she ever had a proper stockings-over-the-fire, Christmas tree, Rudolph the Red Nosed Reindeer celebration. As it turned out, she'd never even heard of Santa Claus. When she did, she was horrified.

A strange, fat bearded man was going to sneak into our house in the middle of the night? Who was this man? Why was he coming? How was he going to get in? Ashley threw an entirely-justifiable tantrum when she learned of his clandestine chimney entrance, refusing to go to sleep until she was assured this man would not be allowed in the house.

"Oh, hi Santa," my Mom called from the front door, after answering a staged doorbell-ringing. "Well, thank you very much," she said overly-loud,

making sure Ashley could hear her. "Yes, see you next year!"

Once Santa had earned her trust with a ridiculous mountain of presents (most donated by the church and family friends) Ashley grudgingly allowed Santa to use the chimney for access, and even insisted we leave out proper milk and cookies. My dad would eat half of them, then leave a trail of crumbs. One Christmas, Ashley was hurt that Santa hadn't drank all of his milk.

"Don't worry, Santa was probably just full," said Mom.

Sibling rivalry

As a 12-year-old-boy, you don't experience a troubled new sister as a victim or a charity case. She's only competition: a rival. She has no excuses. I understood that Ashley had a rough background, but once she came into our home I didn't have pity for her; I only felt obliged to defend my status in the family. I was the oldest, and therefore, I was in charge.

My first memory of Ashley is in the living room of her foster parents' house, when I first met her. When we arrived, she stood up from where the children were playing on the floor and strategically placed herself in front of them, shielding them.

Her hands on her hips, her shoulders back, she had a readied look of determined defiance. She was a protective wall, a buffer, and if we wanted to see the kids we would have to get through her first. She was three years old, and she was ready to fight.

I run this family, her face seemed to say. *Who are you?*

Once we had brought the group home, Ashley had the same attitude of control. She was constantly attempting to boss around her new siblings, and refused to listen to anything we said. She had acknowledged my parents' authority over her, but had no respect for the elder children. Why should she?

You're not my real brother!
You can't tell me what to do!
Shut up! You're stupid!

She was feisty, determined and stubborn. I returned in kind. The following years were a constant battle for dominance. I had bonded with the other kids — particularly Cody — but Ashley was just someone to fight with. Being asked to tuck the kids in to bed was a particular pleasure, as I got to dangle my later bedtime in front Ashley like a trophy. I was a "big kid," she was a "little kid."

Once I moved out of the house, our relationship changed.

"I think she feels closer to you because you're around less," said my mom once. "You're not an adversary anymore."

Instead, Ashley quickly learned that I could be an ally, and that she could use me. Once, I took her to get her nose pierced without parental permission. My Mom was so livid, she wouldn't even talk to me on the phone.

She is currently trying to convince our parents to let her stay at my house for a weekend, seeing this as an escape from the restrictions my dad has put on her. She sees my university lifestyle as the ultimate freedom.

One night I called home and talked to Ashley for a few minutes.

"How are you?" I asked.
"Dunno. Good."
"How's school?"
"Dunno. Good."

After a couple minutes of similarly flat conversation, I told her I had to go and I'd talk to her soon. The next day, I got an email from her:

will

so good to talk to you yesterday. Lots of laughs before bed when are you going to come home to visit me? I miss you lots. xoxoxoxoxoxo

ashley

Running away

Ashley's favorite stories are the ones where I end up looking stupid.

"Tell me the one where you ran away," she says. "Remember?"

When I was about 10 years old, I got into a fight with Dad. I can't remember what it was about, but I grabbed a bag of cookies and marched into the backyard. I climbed a tree in our hedge, perched myself on a branch, then waited for my family to panic.

"I hate my family, I'll show them" — I tell Ashley, usually voicing this inner monologue in an appropriately nerdy voice, stamping my foot like a little kid. Ashley loves that part.

Though I remember being up there for hours, I'm sure I couldn't have lasted more than 45 minutes. I ate the entire bag of cookies, then got thirsty and decided to return for dinner.

"Oh, Will," said Mom, as I came in the back door. "Can you set the table for dinner?"

Over a decade later, Ashley decided to follow suit.

> *I run this family,* her face seemed to say. *Who are you?*

I got a phone call, early in the morning, from my family. She'd left home in the middle of the night, and they hadn't heard anything from her. I was in a different city, but I spent the entire morning e-mailing all of her friends, and calling the few I could find phone numbers for. She was 15-years-old at this point, and having some trouble in high school. I had been hearing mutterings about drug dealers and catfights in the cafeteria, but I figured it was just normal teenage stuff.

That night, nearly 24 hours after she went missing, Ashley was found with her friend Rachel in Abbotsford. Apparently, she'd bused to downtown Vancouver, Skytrained to Surrey, hitch-hiked to Langley, then finally ended up in Abbotsford.

Where were they trying to go? Kelowna. Even though it was January, Rachel had heard it was warm there. They had barely packed any clothes, didn't have any money, and no real plan. I'd made it to the backyard hedge; Ashley had made it to Abbotsford. Impressive. The next day, she emailed me.

Hey will,

Im sorry for worrieing you and puting you through so much.... I didnt mean to worrie you..

well i got to go but i will talk to you later

love you bye

Looking to the future

I often wonder what Ashley's future will look like. She's devoted to her new job at Dairy Queen, and enjoys spending her money on clothes and her boyfriend. She'll graduate high school, thanks to a program for special needs kids. She'll have few problems with boys — Ashley is effortlessly beautiful in a way that infuriates other women.

Ashley also has an enormous family that loves her, and a social network of people looking out for her interests. She's close to our neighbors, baby-sitting and taking their dogs for walks. In most instances, Ashley is very pragmatic. She decides what she wants, then she figures out how to get it. And she is an excellent problem-solver.

I sometimes worry that the shadowy ghosts of her parents still linger in her mind, I wonder if she'll ever get pressured into that world of drugs, or if she'll ever successfully run away from home one day — she was recently grounded for sneaking out of the house to drink beer with boys.

Will the normal vices of teenage life swallow her, or will she come out the other side unscathed?

Recently, Ashley asked me for help in writing a poem for class. The assignment was to answer a series of questions, in third person, about what her life would look like in five years. I kept a copy for my own scrap book.

In Five Years *By Ashley Johnson*

In five years,
Ashley won't be here.
I don't know where she'll be.
But she won't be here.

Her boyfriend's gonna be tall.
Taller than her.
He's gonna smell good, like cologne.
He'll play guitar
And he's going to wink at her when he plays.

She's going to live in an apartment.
There's gonna be a couch, a TV, a coffee table.
And 2 bedrooms,
Cuz Rachel is gonna live there.

She's going to be a waitress
'til she finds something better.
She's going to have friends there
And they'll have parties.
Fun parties.

She'll visit her family
A bit, once in a while
Out in Tsawwassen
But mostly she'll be in Vancouver
Busy.

She's also gonna travel
All over
Hot places
Like Australia, Mexico, California.

I don't know where Ashley will be in five years
But she won't be here.

Wax hits the mainstream markets spinning

After decades of being relegated to basements and garages, vinyl is gaining popularity with young music fans

Sol Kauffman

With a light touch, a finger lifts the tonearm. The record player starts up, the motor emitting a near-silent whirr. Delicately, the needle touches the outermost groove and quiet static warmth begins to breathe from the speakers. The first few notes of the record sing out into the quiet.

Although the music industry's slow-moving statisticians suggest a continuing decline, anybody who spends any time in Victoria's smaller record stores or is a music afficiando has probably noticed a serious upswing in the pressing and sales of vinyl records over the last couple of years.

Independent bands and smaller labels have been releasing both their back catalog and new material on vinyl, and the markets for vintage and re-released records on eBay and in used record stores are also growing.

Turntable producers like Numark and Technics are suddenly selling record players to a significant number of non-DJs for the first time since the early 90s.

In a world where even Luddites have dumped their CD players for iPods, vinyl seems like an outdated and bizarrely analog format — a gigantic but fragile relic that went out with 8-track tape and betamax more than two decades ago. So why is it still around? Could it be (knock on wood) that vinyl is making a comeback?

Gary Anderson has been running The Turntable out of Fan Tan Alley since 1986, making it Victoria's oldest and most revered record store.

"There has definitely been a big younger crowd in here over the last few years," said Anderson. "Kids these days, their parents hand down their turntables and record collections, so they get started with maybe 100 records and it gets addictive."

Ernie Brach, Anderson's partner The Turntable, adds that the sound of records is really what differentiates them from other forms of media.

"When I'm working around the house, cleaning, sketching, I'll put some CDs on, but when I sit down to listen to music it's always on the turntable ... CDs sound so thin," said Brach. "You can hear the body, the depth [of vinyl] on a decent stereo. You can hear the whole soundstage."

From a purely technical standpoint, it's understandable why audiophiles might prefer to listen to records. The most widely-used format for music in the digital age is the mp3, which offers solid quality and a very compact file-size.However, the mp3 is a lossy compression format, meaning that the file does not fully represent all the data in the original; subtle nuances of an album are lost, like the jangle of ROBO's bracelets on Black Flag's "Damaged."

> "With vinyl, you get a natural warmth that most people find pleasing. Vinyl is easy on the ears."
>
> – Josh Szczepanowski, local musician

"If you run your iPod through a good stereo you can hear holes that you could drive a truck through," said Anderson.

CDs aren't exactly perfect either. Although they have the capability to provide a huge dynamic range, it's never used because of an industry conflict called the loudness war. The human brain often thinks music is better when it's louder because the ear picks up more high and low frequency content, and over the years record labels have increasingly compressed albums to increase the perceived volume, competing with each other to have the "loudest" releases.

The price paid for this is "flattening," or a loss of dynamic range, meaning that quiet sounds like a whisper are suddenly as loud as a snare drum or guitar riff. Severe compression can even clip or distort louder sounds. If you compare a CD from 20 or 30 years ago with an album that just came out, you will probably notice that the new album sounds squished.

JOSH THOMPSON PHOTO

With an increasing number of bands releasing their music on vinyl, turntables are no longer just for DJs.

"Modern CDs are always far over-compressed and tiring on the ears — literally hard to listen to," said Josh Szczepanowski, lead guitarist for the Victoria-based Pink Floyd tribute band, PIGS. It's impossible to compress music on vinyl to such extremes, so vinyl often has a presence that is unattainable with other formats.

"With vinyl, you get a natural warmth that most people find pleasing. Vinyl is easy on the ears," said Szczepanowski.

Sound quality isn't the only reason people prefer vinyl, however. For many, vinyl records represent a better connection between the listener and artist.

"The best part of vinyl... [is that] it forces you to listen to albums as albums, not just random songs," said Szczepanowski. "The listener has to hear the entire work of art, instead of fast-forwarding to their favourites. With vintage records, you'll be hearing exactly what the artist actually wanted you to hear."

This connection makes sitting down and listening to a record a kind of special ritual. The fragility of the medium and the apparatus used to play it also demand a certain finesse and attention, in contrast to the convenience of scrolling through your playlists on iTunes.

All this contributes to the reasons that many young music fans are dusting off their parents' record players or going out any buying their own, and this growing market may represent a lifeline for the ailing music industry. While the difference between store-bought CDs and downloaded mp3s isn't large, vinyl represents a physical product that downloads can't replace.

"A lot of new LPs are coming out with a one-time digital download, because you're going to do that anyway," said Brach. "They still make money off of the record, and giving you the mp3s doesn't cost them anything."

While prophesizing the end of the CD is a bit presumptuous, vinyl records and their accompanying downloads are definitely cutting into CDs' market share.

Overall, the return of vinyl is a promising sign. People are paying more attention to artists and their music, and listeners are showing that they are still willing to support the industry if they feel they are getting bang for their buck.

Doomsayers and music critics may don sackcloth and lament the days of the "classics," but maybe the problem isn't that today's musicians aren't as creative as previous generations. Maybe the problem is that we just aren't listening closely enough.

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WHAT'S IN YOUR MOUTH?

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Corn chowder can be a tasty and nutrious replacement for canned soup.

Chow down on chowder

Kiran McKee

Canned soup is a popular meal for many students. It's cheap, delicious and there are endless options. However, inside that brightly-coloured can, there're often high sodium and fat levels. And honestly, after a couple of cans in one week the flavours often seem the same.

Instead of reaching for another can in disgust, why not create some homemade soup, custom made to individual taste? Not only is it delicious and unique, but homemade soup is also more affordable for starving students. Many of the vegetables in this recipe can be found for extra cheap in Chinatown.

The word chowder is derived from the French word, *chaudron*, the name of the pot used to cook it in. However, the first people to call a thick soup chowder were fishermen in Newfoundland. For fishermen, this was a great way to warm up after a long day on their boats. Corn chowder is just as delicious as its clammy cousin and it's seafood-free.

This recipe freezes well. Just throw your leftovers into an ice cream bucket and it will keep for at least two months (if it isn't consumed faster). Serve with biscuits, bread, or buns.

CORN CHOWDER

1 onion
4 ears of corn
2 large potatoes (peeling optional)
2-3 carrots
2 cloves garlic
1 bay leaf
30-44 ml (2-3 tbsps) butter/margarine
500 ml (2 cups) water
473 ml (1 pint) whipping cream
250 ml (1 cup) cheddar cheese
salt, parsley, sage and basil (all to taste)

Chop all vegetables. Cut the potatoes into small cubes, shred the corn from the stalks, chop up the onions and garlic until small and chop the carrot into discs of uniform size.

Fill a large pot with 500 ml of water and salt it. Bring to a boil and add the bay leaf, carrots and potatoes. Simmer until the potatoes and carrots are tender.

In a fry pan, melt the butter/margarine and add the garlic and onions. Sauté until soft. Add the garlic and onions to the pot, along with the corn and the whipping cream. Add as much or as little parsley, sage and basil as required. Simmer soup for thirty minutes. While soup is simmering, shred cheddar cheese.

Take soup off the burner and add cheddar cheese. Mix until cheese has melted and serve immediately.

Feelings flow in French flick

M.A. Raza

"My six-year-old son."

The woman's potential employer stared at her in outraged disbelief for a moment, stunned by her answer, before screaming for her to get out of his office. His question had been simple: "who did you murder?"

Phillipe Claudel's film, *Il y a Longtemps que Je T'aime* (*I've Loved You So Long*), follows Juliette (Kristin Scott Thomas) who goes to live with her sister's family after 15 years of imprisonment for the murder of her son. Léa, (Elsa Zylberstein) enthusiastically welcomes her sister into her home. Despite Juliette's sullen reluctance, Léa is determined to love her and get her to move on at all costs.

Though Léa's husband Luc (Serge Hazanavicius), is wary of Juliette's presence around the couple's two young adopted children, Léa remains almost blind to her sister's crime. Subconsciously she tries to get Juliette to open up and give an explanation for the crime, which she has refused to provide, even during her trial.

Initially worn, divorced from her husband and disowned by her parents, Juliette moves throughout the world with a hardened indifference. However, Lea's determination and the irresistible charm of her young nieces eventually get to her, and as the film moves on Juliette begins to warm up slightly, and others begin to warm up to her. She begins to form friendships with people, though she keeps a firm distance from those around her.

> "The emotional performance given by the actors make this film one worth seeing."

In one heart-warming scene, Juliette teaches her niece how to play the piano, just as she had taught her sister years earlier. The audience is met with conflicting notions about this hardened, cold-blooded killer as viewers come to see more and more of her warm, gentle soul showing through.

Though Juliette becomes continually more integrated back into the world after being a prisoner for so many years, she is still trapped in a cell of her mind that refuses to let go of the past. Though most people see her as relatively normal, reminders of her past keep coming back to haunt her, as new friends begin to probe her about her past, and she finds it impossible to escape from the painful memories.

The film, written and directed by Claudel, is a story about love, family and starting over. Overall, *Il y a Longtemps que Je T'aime* is successful in depicting the bonds of sisterhood and evoking complicated emotions from the viewers. It was nominated for two Golden Globes, including a stab at best foreign film. However, the major flaw is that the plot relies so heavily on the mystery behind the murder (finally revealed in the last scene of the film), that the so-called mystery can be easily guessed with a fair degree of certainty too early on in the movie. There are also some elements that have little to do with the plotline (such as the suicide of Juliette's parole officer) that could have been omitted entirely from the script.

Though slightly predictable and occasionally banal, the emotional performances given by the actors and the well-executed scenes that drive the emotionally charged plot forward make this film one worth seeing.

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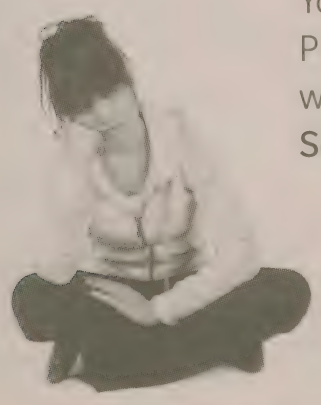

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Love of leaves blossoms at tantilizing tea festival

Marri Knadle

It's no secret that Victoria, often hailed as a Canadian mini-Britain, has a strong association with tea. Victoria's love for tea and North America's budding gourmet tea culture came together for a good cause on Feb. 14 and 15 in the third-annual Victoria Tea Festival at Crystal Gardens.

Chinese folklore says tea was invented by Emperor Shennong around 2737 B.C.E. Almost five millennia later, gourmet tea culture has become one of North America's most recent and enthusiastic Eastern appropriations.

The west's relationship with tea is a narrative history more extensive than the roots of the tea plant itself, involving revolutions in trade routes, tastes and social custom. The most recent story of this union is happening all around us as North America awakens to tea's real potential.

This year's festival functioned as both fundraiser and exhibit. Ticket proceeds and portions of vendor sales went to support Camosun College Childcare Services.

AHMED MUMENI PHOTO

Gourmet teas have become increasingly available as North Americans become immersed in tea culture.

Local tea companies showcased their know-how, equipment and unique blends for a crowd of about 3,000 people — a long way from the first festival's estimated 500 and a sign of tea's increasing popularity. Events, including 10 lectures over the course of the weekend, provided entertainment, information and a chance to sample some rare teas and tea concoctions.

"It's no longer just about orange pekoe any more," said Christine Smart of Smart Events about the kinds of teas available, as she lectured on how to host the perfect tea party.

At the festival, the big stars of the show were matcha and yerba mate, followed closely by a buzz about white teas and rooibos. These teas and tisanes (the proper tea aficionado's word for a steeped herbal concoction) have been drawing a lot of publicity because of their health benefits. Besides appealing to the health-conscious, this new wave of tea is offering a flavor experience far and away from the old-style cuppa.

Daniela Cubelic attended the festival not only because she's the co-owner of Silk Road Tea, but because she's also a tea master with a direct training line descending from Lu Yu, author of the world's oldest book on tea. She explained North America's belated love affair with tea to a full house during her lecture on tea connoisseurship.

The black tea originally introduced to Europeans was substandard, high-yield stuff, and China's tea culture was not exported with the leaves themselves. But for generations, Europeans didn't know what they were missing, what elite brews and delicate concoctions remained out of commercial reach. Instead, Europeans developed a taste for strong, black tea with a punch of flavor and caffeine rather than a bouquet of subtler notes. But the tea bush has over 600 aromatic varietals hidden away in the chemical structure of its leaves, just waiting to be brewed to be discovered.

"Tea artisans are just as important as a vintner might be," Cubelic said.

A sample of a rare Makaibari Estate darjeeling proved the point: even a black tea, something with a bad rap with the developing North American palate, can be exquisite.

Chef Steve Walker-Duncan of Ambrosia Conference and Event Centre dealt tea's dusty reputation another death-blow with edible concoctions to fill the imagination and the stomach. A tenderloin with a dry rub of lapsang souchong, chai broth meat fondue, hojicha risotto with mushrooms, tea-infused vinaigrettes, butters, chocolates and sauces. The list goes on almost endlessly with possible combinations of foods and different teas, presenting an avenue for tea experience both for the purely hungry and the staunch coffee-drinker.

The healthy and eco-conscious, the gourmand, the explorer, the poet — tea is reaching out in new ways to new palates, finally blooming into a modern niche that is warmly receiving it. It's a local-global, solitary-social phenomena recently commandeered by gourmets, but far too sincere to be pretentious.

Whether in a mousse, a meat, or a mug, whether black, white, red, green, or a tisane, a novel world of tea awaits within this very city for all noses and taste buds to discover.

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Old favorites return with mediocore offerings

Years of Refusal
Morrissey
LOST HIGHWAY/ATTACK RECORDS

Morrissey lives to ruffle feathers. Whether he's calling out members of British Parliament or advocating for vegetarianism, Morrissey succeeds greatest when he delivers a lyrical zinger with equal parts vitriol and wit. Though his lyrics teeter on the edge of melodrama and cliché, you can always sense the undercurrent of a well-humoured man laughing at life's troubles.

Morrissey's latest album *Years of Refusal* is his ninth solo album, following 2006's *Ringleader of the Tormentors*. On *Years of Refusal*, his lyrical dexterity spirals from the literary to the lousy, as seen the lyrics "And you will never see the one you love again/And the smiling children tell you that you smell" from "One Day Goodbye Will Be Farewell."

In his middle-age, Morrissey's shown the ability to offer mediocre writing — something which greatly affects the album's capacity to touch on his usual themes of depression and despair. Sure, Morrissey has built a career out of this stuff, but his musical slip-outs reveal an artist incapable of channeling the well-worn terrain of past successes.

Fortunately for Morrissey faithfuls, *Years of Refusal* does offer a few nice additions to a career that has spanned nearly three decades. On "Mama Lay Softly on the Riverbed" he flaunts the bravado of a voice growing fuller with age. "I'm Throwing My Arms Around Paris," begins with the familiar pastoral jangle of vintage Moz.

Late in the album Morrissey sings: "You were good in your time/ And we thank you." Although his decay as a relevant lyricist stymies a few tracks, Morrissey's latest offering provides enough positive tunes that his farewell will be delayed, at least until his impending senility sets in.

- Matt Lundy

The Ballad of Stompin' Tom
Stompin' Tom Connors
EMI MUSIC CANADA

Like maple syrup, loonies and toonies, poutine and Hockey Night in Canada, the legendary Stompin' Tom Connors is an iconic symbol of the Great White North.

Perhaps, as Canada's only Maritime cowboy, the chain-smoking, beer-swilling Connors is the embodiment of a true good ole' boy. A native son of Saint John, New Brunswick, the crisscrossing country rambler has been toe-tappin' and stompin' his way from coast to coast since the 1960s. He's seen and sung about virtually every aspect of blue-collar life, true patriot love and the cultural landscape.

Four decades later, his love of all-things-Canadian and his humorous signature (a witty speak-easy storytelling style, sprinkled with mirthful bouts of yodeling) still resonates throughout his latest CD, *The Ballad of Stompin' Tom*. Connors turns 73 this month, so this could well be his last release.

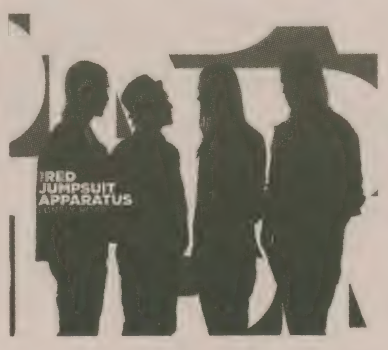
The Ballad of Stompin' Tom is a light-listening disk that's fun all around. It is easily enjoyed by all ages — but especially those of drinking age.

The album is split between fresh material and greatest hits, some featuring a few lyrical revisions. It opens with one such version of 1976's "The Olympic Song," catchy enough to expect some heavy rotation play next year.

Several of Connors' new tunes like "Chickee Pooh" and "Chase Me Charley" are instantly infectious, but it is the album's title track which may be destined to become another classic.

Rest assured, the life-long drifter included several of his crowd-pleasing ditties like "My Hockey Mom," "My British Columbian Home," a live version of "Take Me Back to Old Alberta" and, of course, Canada's secondary national anthem: "The Hockey Song."

- Jordan C. Hanford



Lonely Road
The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus
EMI

The Red Jumpsuit Apparatus enjoyed plenty of success when their debut album *Don't Fake It* soared into the Billboard's top-200 list two years ago. The screaming lyrics of lead vocalist Ronnie Winter grabbed everyone's attention. The album sold over a million copies in the U.S. and their single "Face Down" spent 52 weeks on the top-20 Modern Rock Chart.

Unfortunately, the kids from Middleburg, Florida were unable to continue their original style in their second and latest album, *Lonely Road*. Here, Winter abandons his scream-style vocals and replaces it with a soft, sentimental, emo approach, which emphasizes his weak, nasally voice. In an attempt to add power to Winter's voice, producer Howard Benson is constantly stacking guitar rifts and adding string sections to tracks.

Lonely Road's first single "You Better Pray" stands out as the album's only rock song. The 80s' style guitar rifts and distorted soloing in the background set this song apart from the pop-punk style of the rest of the record.

The album does, however, have a very easy to listen to sound, with lyrics and melodies that will inspire most junior high teens. The very catchy "Pen and Paper" tells the story of a male teen who's angry with his girlfriend, and "Senioritis" describes the emotions of graduating from high school. These cliché adolescent storylines guide young teens through related problems that they face in their ever-so-dramatic young lives.

Lonely Road will not send shivers down your spine with beautiful melodies, nor will it inspire you with imaginative lyrics. However, it can make for a easy listen while doing the dishes, or maybe even make a great birthday present for your 14-year-old brother.

- Kevan Ramsden

Common Existence
Thursday
EPITAPH RECORDS

Thursday's 2001 album *Full Collapse* sent reverential waves through the hardcore community and has been credited with redefining the genre.

Since then, Thursday has released two albums to lesser critical acclaim and their rising star has been threatening to fall off the radar completely.

In 2008, all signs pointed to a return of the raw passion that garnered the band attention in the first place. The band slated a release on punk label Epitaph Records following their brief flirtation with major labels and a split EP with influential Japanese band Envy was in the works.

Thursday entered the studio with badminton racquets and Twitter applications in hand, determined to distract themselves and document the process for the teeming internet-ing masses. The band posted photos of their ridiculously complicated kick drum mic setup and of their complex badminton tournament schedules on the micro blogging website.

The age of digital recording may have afforded bands freedom when rendering an album, but it seems to have a homogenizing effect.

The first track of Thursday's new album, *Common Existence*, seems to indicate that they've fallen into this trap. "Resuscitation of a Dead Man" is overly reminiscent of The Offspring and AFI, and it seems to take the album a few tracks to shake off these comparisons.

The production on the album showcases an almost infinitely hollow kick drum sound that allows the buzzing trebles of Geoff Rickly's vocals and Tom Keeley's and Steve Pedulla's jangly guitars to resonate. The album starts to gain momentum near the end, with standout tracks "Subway Funeral" and "You Are the Cancer," but it's not enough to allow Thursday to reclaim their status as pioneers.

- Jodie Thomson

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SEX FOR STUDENTS

Reading break not long enough? Here are a few more chances to act like an animal and relieve pent-up exam stress

Kim Magi, Danielle Pope, Lynda Pupo, Courtney Smith, and Kailey Willetts

Last week the Martlet tried out a cross-section of sex toys (most provided by locally owned and operated at-home sex toy company JoyToy) to find out just what tickled people the right (and wrong) ways.

This week the mission carries on with a list of tantalizing sex treats that don't always turn out the way you'd expect, along with vivacious vibrators, safety tips and tips for finding low-cost play things.

Annabelle Harrington, owner and operator of Victoria's JoyToy, says the key to picking the right sex toy is finding out what you're comfortable with.

"The biggest thing we try to do is provide a safe and comfortable atmosphere to try products," Harrington says. "We want people to have the opportunity to see if it is for them."

Prices for most toys range from $15 to $150, though there are always ways to cut costs (see "The 99-cent solution"). To save your time, and your wallet, check out the following staff reviews to find out what's good this sexy season.

And as Harrington says, remember the motto for any enjoyable sex play: "have fun, be safe and stay informed."

To check out the JoyToy range of goods yourself, or host your own private sex toy party, contact Annabelle Harrington at 250-882-1010, or visit joytoy-products.com. UVic students get a 10 per cent discount on all individual purchases.

Kama Sutra Pleasures

As a woman with a male partner in a more-then-serious relationship, I've never wanted to bring anything into the bedroom aside from love and bare bottoms.

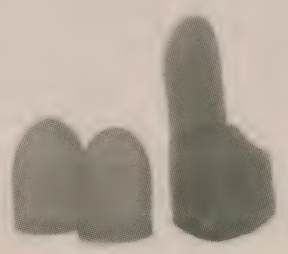
For the sake of experimentation, my partner and I decided to try a few low-key bedroom tune ups: Kama Sutra "oil of love" vanilla crème, Kama Sutra "pleasure balm" tangerines and cream and the Screaming O Bullets mini-vibrator.

We decided that vanilla, tangerine and cream sound yummy not scary, and laughed about the Screaming O — a yellow mechanical object that looked more like a highlighter then anything sexy.

To my horror, my partner ripped open the package to the vibrator and turned it on. My first words: "Ew, why does it [the vibrations] have to be so strong?" Important note: instead of using it sexually, we took turns holding it against our earlobes, noses, throats and foreheads, then finally let my cat take a turn batting it around on the floor.

Several nights later, I was rubbing my partner's back when he suggested that we try our new massage oil and cream. The oil of love sounded good with its warming sensation and vanilla scent, but the warning to use externally only (hey, you never know where a massage can go) seemed disturbing. The pleasure balm gel smelled of anything but tangerine — more of an antacid aroma. Its final turn-off was the warning: "may cause irritation in sensitive areas."

In the end, I wound up with one totally useless product, a vanilla-scented air freshener, and a cat toy. But I've still got the greatest sex toy of all: my man. Hey, we didn't get this far on nothing.



Fukuoko 9000 Vibrator

Both my boyfriend and I were sex toy virgins before we tried the "Fukuoku 9000." This little vibrator slides onto your finger and pulsates near the fingertip, so you can use it "anywhere your fingers can go," according to the package.

I first tried it by myself, which was okay because I could control the pressure and speed. When I tried it with my boyfriend, however, it was a little awkward. I would say that we're both fairly sexual people and are open to new things, but bringing a vibrator into the mix didn't have the effect I was looking for.

He was uncomfortable, and even though he was using his hands in conjunction with the vibrator, he still wasn't really sure what to do and kept asking for direction (which isn't always a bad thing). After a while, we both relaxed and were able to enjoy it, but after that one time he expressed that he didn't really want to try it again.

I think we'll stick to manual and oral — for now, anyway.

Fukuoku Massage Glove

One hundred bucks for a vibrating massage glove may seem pricey — especially with the Michael Jackson feel that comes with wearing it — but this toy is worth every penny.

The "Fukuoku Waterproof Massage Glove" feels amazing, even for completely innocent massages. It's

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.35¢ Wings (after 2 PM)
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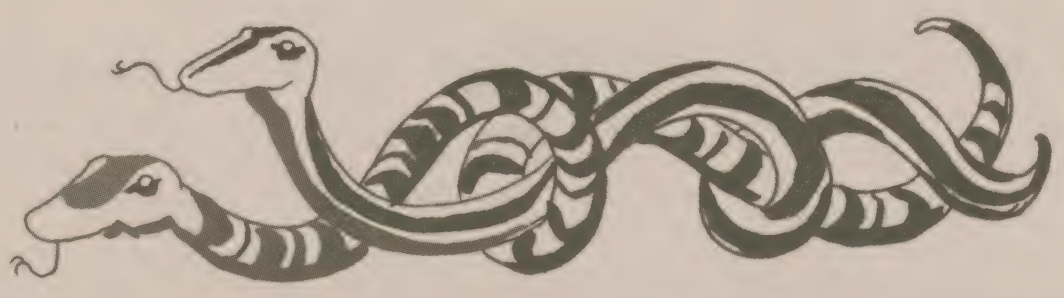


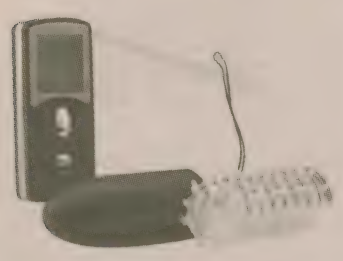
also quiet enough, although if you put it near your ears it sounds like a swarm of bees. But best of all, the glove is washable. Basically, it can be used anywhere — as I discovered when I got it home to the privacy of my bedroom.

Put it on and masturbate as normal? Fantastic. Just be sure to try it up, down and all around.

Once I had played with it alone for a while, I had a partner join in. I started off by stroking his penis, his balls and the surrounding area. Tired of handjobs that last way too long? Just use the glove. I actually had to take it away so he didn't cum too quickly — another amazing side affect.

I also used it on my partner anally (with protection, despite it's washability). Introduce a boy to vibrations on his prostate, and he'll think he's in sex-toy heaven.

Basically, I love the glove, he loves the glove, and I'm pretty sure you'll love the glove too.



Ultra 10 Remote-Control Bullet

What first appealed to me about the "Ultra 10 Remote Control Bullet" was that it was, well, remote controlled — and wireless, too.

I could just imagine the possibilities.

I brought the bullet (and a friend) home, and we tried it out.

I went upstairs to put it on — er, in. It can be set in underwear, against the clit, or put inside of you.

But be warned: this bullet is pretty big, so without the appropriate warm-up it could be less than comfortable.

Oh, and be careful — the cord used to pull it out breaks easily, as we later discovered. Since we were sharing, I also put the bullet inside a condom.

Before I came down the stairs and before I even made it back to my bedroom — VMMMMMMMMMMMM.

And as someone walked in the room to say something — VMMMMMMM.

It felt nice; it felt naughty. Apart from the pleasure derived from the vibrations, the bullet also offers some play in power dynamics.

Whoever has the remote has the power, and that can be fun (or scary, if you're in the grocery store).

It also works fantastically as a solo toy or as foreplay because it has 10 speeds.

My batteries lasted a considerable amount of time, considering the use the toy was getting.

SAFETY RULES FOR SEX PLAY

A few safety rules come with any kind of sex play, especially bondage, and it's difficult to enjoy yourself without them.

Agree on a safe word

This can be any word you wouldn't normally use in conversation and, preferably, one with few syllables. Having a prearranged safe word means that, no matter how wild the play gets, you have a way of telling your partner that you're uncomfortable or need a break.

Don't leave them unattended

No matter what happens, do not leave your partner alone and tied up. Not only are you leaving them vulnerable, but you could be endangering their safety.

Never tie anyone too tightly-

There should always be enough slack to fit one or two fingers under the restraint. Serious injury can result if circulation is cut off for too long.

Know how to undo restraints before you put them on

There's nothing worse than getting stuck in bondage and having to ruin the equipment by cutting it off.

It's all about trust

While it might sound like fun on the second date, it's never a good idea, and could result in a dangerous situation, or embarrassing pictures on Facebook.

Bondage safety is for everyone

It's your responsibility to be clear and direct with your partner about your needs and comfort levels (whether you're the restrainer or restrainee). Unless your partner happens to be psychic, its unfair to burden them by expecting them to anticipate your needs.

THE 99-CENT SOLUTION

Here are a few survival strategies for finding toys without tall price tags.

I burn with envy for the $300 leather chaps, the $150 chainmail flogger, the $70 paddles with the inlayed hearts, the doggy-tail butt plug and the designer collars in red, blue and black.

I want enough money to support an arms-length list of kinks and fetishes. Unfortunately, I'm a student.

Being a serious BDSM player seems to require a serious bank account. How do I get around money issues and stay kinky as hell? The same way I might get around affording kitchen wares or Christmas presents for relatives: I shop at dollar stores

No beautiful $75 collars from Asla for me. I started out with a front-ring pet collar, purchased for 99 cents. Scrap the paddles — flyswatters or wooden spoons will work just fine. Nipple clamps get replaced by clothespins and alligator clips. Leash, feather duster, emergency candles, bamboo skewers, ice cube tray, dog dish and rubber bone? All 99 cents. That strange kitchen utensil that looks exactly like a Wartenberg wheel is 99 cents too.

Granted, I'm not the most fashionable S&M player. But until I find a sugar daddy, I'll settle for being led around on a cheap nylon leash.

I may be broke, but that doesn't mean I have to settle for anything less than freaky. All it takes is five bucks and a little creativity to transform the most benign objects into hours of sadomasochistic fun.

Who knew the dollar store could be so kinky?

- Auden Cody Neuman

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Continued from p. 1

Vikes destined for world stage

"It's huge being selected for the World Cup side," Sawers said after being chosen for the tournament. "It only happens every four years and they take the best of the best."

Although a number of the Canadian players may be young, they aren't inexperienced. Despite playing in a non-professional league in Victoria, the level of competition is considered some of the highest in Canada due to the number of carded athletes and national veterans training in the area. Practices are already under way as the team looks to build on their recent tours through Wellington, New Zealand and San Diego, California. Over the two-week period, the team came away with a record of 2-6-2, one that Thompson says was below his players' capabilities.

"Obviously our goal is not to be in the shield," Thompson said after his side's victory over Uruguay in San Diego. "Our goal is to be back in the top eight, and they're totally capable of doing it. It's just putting it together for the whole game and for the whole tournament."

Canada will be up against some stiff competition as their pool sees them take on South Africa, Scotland and Japan in the round robin. After being replaced by the U.S. as a core member on the Sevens circuit this past year, the Canadian squad will try to silence their critics and regain their status as one of the toughest teams on the Sevens stage.

UVic edged out by the TWU Spartans

Eric Hertz

The Trinity Western Spartans squeaked by the UVic Vikes with a combined total of three points in their Feb. 13 to 15 weekend basketball series, but three points was all they needed to end UVic's hopes of playing in the Pacific division finals.

The Vikes managed to take one game from the Spartans, but in a best-of-three series their efforts simply were not enough. The Vikes senior duo of Mitch Gudgeon and Tyler Hass did not envision ending their Canadian Interuniversity Sport (CIS) careers so abruptly, despite playing to the best of their abilities in their final game for the Vikes.

The first game was a closely-battled affair, ended by Trinity's Louis Hurd as he hit the game winning three-point shot with six seconds left on the clock.

The Vikes were forced to fight back for most of the game after the Spartans started the game on a 14-2 run. UVic managed to build a seven-point lead in the fourth quarter, thanks in great part due to a 20-point night from Hass. The Vikes defence hounded Trinity Western, forcing 24 turnovers and holding former Vikes member Jacob Doerksen to just eight points.

"We [will] probably live to regret the first game of the series," UVic coach Craig Beaucamp said after the loss. "The first game is pivotal in a three-game series. We were up seven but ultimately lost on a buzzer-beater."

In the second game of the series, the Vikes faced elimination and played hard, forcing a third and deciding game. The scoring came from an unlikely suspect with Victoria's own Jeff Cullen scoring a new career high with 24 points.

The game was closely contested through the first three quarters, but the Vikes managed to build a 16-point lead in the fourth. Gudgeon notched the final double-double of his CIS career with 20 points and 11 rebounds, and helped to force the series' deciding game.

In the third game of the series, Trinity Western's big three, comprising of Doerksen, Hurd and Brian Banman, proved to be too much for the Vikes to handle, scoring a combined 59 points.

The game appeared to be over by the third quarter, with the Vikes trailing by 27. But the Vikes senior duo would not let their final game end in a blowout.

Hass scored 15 of his 22 in the fourth quarter, and Gudgeon started the Vikes on an incredible 18-1 run.

But their efforts were not enough as they ran out of time coming up two points short, falling 87-85.

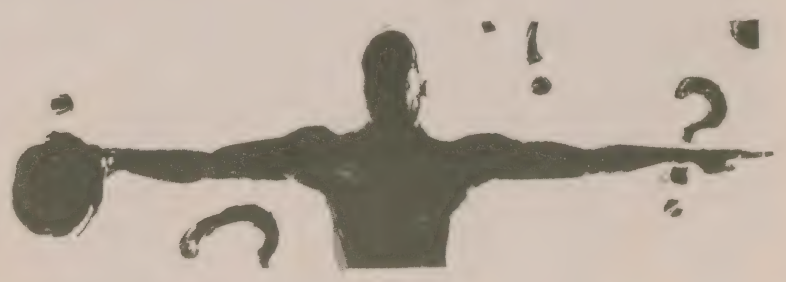
"We came out and dug ourselves a hole and put ourselves in a precarious position," said Beaucamp. "We came back and the guys played unbelieveably and didn't quit, but ultimately the poor start cost us."

Trinity is moving on to face UBC in the Pacific division finals while UVic will look quite different the next time they take the court.

For the first time in five years, the Vikes will not have the familiar faces of graduating Hass and Gudgeon. The seniors leave a big void in the starting five of the Vikes for next year, and it will be interesting to see how the team will cope.

"[Hass and Gudgeon] have been key members of the team for the last five years and leave some very difficult shoes to fill," said Beaucamp.

LUNDY'S RUNDOWN



MARC JUNKER GRAPHIC

Slam Dunk contest needs some work

Matt Lundy

The NBA Slam Dunk Contest and prop comedy have enjoyed a symbiotic relationship since Cedric Ceballos, during the 1992 competition, dunked while blindfolded by his headband.

Yet during the 2009 All-Star game in Phoenix, the game's annual celebration of physical fortitude started to resemble a ventriloquism act, with commissioner David Stern's hand up the dummy's ass.

You could successfully argue that the NBA's All-Star weekend trumps its other pro-league equivalents. The NFL's Pro Bowl is held after the season and every player is so scared to tear a ligament that, as a result, the game's intensity plummets. The NHL, two seasons ago for the mid-season tilt in Dallas, scheduled the All-Star game on a Wednesday, where it had abysmal television ratings. Only baseball's equivalent, propelled by the Home Run Derby, can compare.

The NBA All-Star Skills Challenge — comprised of competitions in dunking, three-point shooting, point guard skills and a bizarre game with WNBA players and retired goons like Bill Laimbeer — continually produces iconic moments in our culture. Whether it's Dwight Howard smacking a sticker of his goofy face at the top of the backboard, or Gerald Green blowing out a birthday candle from a cupcake on the hoop's rim, some of these dunks require outside assistance.

This year everyone wanted a hand in the night's gimmickry.

The judges set an early tone when they awarded Dwight Howard a perfect score for an average dunk which he took multiple tries to complete. Once all the competitors — Howard, Nate Robinson, Rudy Fernandez and J.R. Smith — had completed their first dunks, the script was set for a Howard/Robinson showdown, both of whom have won past dunk competitions.

The broadcasters seemed intent on playing up the David/Goliath side of their battle, an obvious choice since Robinson measures a generous 5-foot-9, while Howard, who claims to be Superman, comes in just under seven feet.

The first discretion of Carrot Top proportions came when, in round two, Dwight Howard had a forklift haul in an adjustable hoop, which was later given an extra two feet of height. Before completing this dunk with ease, a spectacle of Vegas-like extravagance took place. The loudspeakers played Superman theme music, Howard changed into his cape, and the television cameras conveniently panned to Stern, faking concern over pandemonium by hamming up the moment.

Later, Robinson returned for the final round in a green New York Knicks jersey. Yes, the colour of kryptonite. Robinson would defeat Howard, deservedly.

The NBA finds itself in an enviable position in this economic recession. Unlike baseball, the product hasn't diminished in a cloud of over-priced steroid users. And unlike hockey, its American consumers have bought into a new generation of superstars.

The on-court product, chiefly the game's players, has the talent to continually produce iconic moments without resorting to cheap gags on its most entertaining night.

The NBA should cut the strings and let its players dictate which moments etch themselves into pop culture history, and which get forgotten.

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ANDREW SMITH PHOTO

Cole McFarlane (right) was part of last year's UVic squad that held the Vancouver Whitecaps to a 0-0 draw.

Vikes to host United Soccer League champions Vancouver Whitecaps

Andrew Smith

In 1974, Bob Lenarduzzi and Bruce Wilson laced up alongside one another to play for the Vancouver Whitecaps. Fast forward some 35 years later, and the two players are still dedicating themselves to the growth of soccer.

Bruce Wilson, 2008's Canada West men's soccer coach of the year, and Vancouver Whitecaps President Bob Lenarduzzi, will once again see their two teams face off on Saturday, Feb. 28, at Centennial Stadium.

It's becoming a tradition of sorts that has seen the young Vikes hold their own in recent years. Last spring, the Vikes held the Whitecaps to a 0-0 draw, while in 2007 UVic slipped past the pro side to take the match 1-0.

The game allows the Vikes to experience a higher level of soccer, says UVic men's soccer coach Bruce Wilson.

"It's a great chance for our young players in particular to see what the next level is like," Wilson said. "They're definitely at a different level than us; it's a great challenge for our young players."

After capturing the Canada West title over Trinity Western University last fall, the UVic side has produced a number of players that could potentially be useful to the Whitecaps.

UVic goalie Dan Kilpatrick and Canada West MVP Cole McFarlane recently signed with the Victoria Higlanders, a U-23 development squad in town that was created to produce players for the Whitecaps' United Soccer League (USL).

They're just two of the players that UVic will have a chance to show off to the professional soccer organization.

"The other good thing about playing the Whitecaps is that it allows their coaching staff to see our young players," Wilson said. "It's a great relationship where we have fed them players over the years and they have helped us by having this game."

Whitecaps' Geordie Lyall was one of UVic's greatest up-and-coming stars that serves as a prime example of how important it is for the scouts to be seeing Canada's university athletes.

With a tour of Africa coming in March, the exhibition match will provide some much needed exposure and game experience to the Whitecaps, who are set to defend their USL title this spring.

With Vancouver edging nearer to a major league soccer franchise every season, Wilson says it's very important that the teams keep their strong relationship going.

Through maintaining the annual exhibition match, both the local soccer community and the Whitecaps are able to benefit.

Kickoff is set for 3:00 p.m. this Saturday, Feb. 28.

UBC dashes hopes of Pacific divison playoffs

Eric Hertz

The red-hot Vikes' winning streak came to a crashing halt Feb. 14, as they lost two pivotal playoff games to the UBC Thunderbirds. Despite their heroic efforts, the Vikes are now done for the season.

With the score 62-62 and the series on the line, UBC came up with the veteran play by drawing the foul and put the Vikes out of the playoffs.

For the third time in the last four years, the Vikes took on the UBC Thunderbirds in the Pacific division semi-finals. The Vikes were unable to capitalize on their home-court advantage, however, and came up short.

On Friday, Feb. 13, UBC pounded the ball inside to their star Leanne Evans. Evans finished the game with 20 points, seven rebounds and six blocks. Evans managed to hold off the Vikes' Kayla Dykstra, who finished with 13 points and 13 rebounds.

The Vikes held the early lead, but a 10-0 run before the half gave UBC the 31-24 halftime advantage. UBC held onto this lead the rest of the way, despite some late game heroics from the Vikes.

UVic's Michelle Lee knocked down a couple of threes, and Dykstra hit one to bring the game within one basket. With three free-throw opportunities, the Vikes' Jane Anholt had the chance to tie the game. After knocking down the first two, the third free throw was off. The game ended with UBC up 57-54 giving the T-Birds a 1-0 series advantage.

With the next game a must-win for the Vikes, UBC came out and made sure that there was no game three. With two free throws in the last second of play, UBC rookie Lia St. Pierre ended the Vikes' season.

UBC held the lead from the first quarter until the third, where Dykstra hit a buzzer beater to give her team the 47-45 lead. The Vikes continued this momentum into the fourth, where they built a six-point lead, before St. Pierre jumpstarted a 12-1 run for the T-Birds.

With the clock running down and the score deadlocked at 62-62, UBC bled out the clock until there was next to no time left. Their first shot attempt was a miss, but St. Pierre handled the offensive rebound and forced the Vikes to foul. She made both attempts, her 12th and 13th points of the quarter. Ashley Yee led the way for the Vikes, scoring 18 in a losing effort.

"We played well," said Vikes coach Brian Cheng after the series. "They are just a little more experienced. Four out of their five starters played in last year's national championship and won."

UBC will be moving on to SFU in the Pacific division finals, but the Vikes now have next season to look forward to. With the roster staying pretty much the same and having this playoff experience, the Vikes will look to build on this season.

"No one is graduating," said Cheng, "and we are adding three very good players."

TOP TEN

FOR THE WEEK OF FEBRUARY 24, 2009

1. ELEPHANT ISLAND †
   Don't Say You Don't Know What You Want (Aaargh!)
2. ANIMAL COLLECTIVE
   Merriweather Post Pavilion (Domino)
3. JON-RAE FLETCHER †
   Oh Maria (Weewerk)
4. ANDRE ETHIER *
   Born Of Blue Fog (Blue Fog)
5. BLACKOUT BEACH †
   Skin Of Evil (Soft Abuse)
6. BEIRUT
   March Of The Zapotec/Realpeople Holland (Pompeii/Ba Da Bing!)
7. CHARLES SPEARIN *
   The Happiness Project (Arts & Crafts)
8. DAN AUERBACH
   Keep It Hid (Nonesuch)
9. PHOSPHORESCENT
   To Willie (Dead Oceans)
10. JERK WARD †
    Too Young To Thrash (Supreme Echo)

* Canadian artist † local artist

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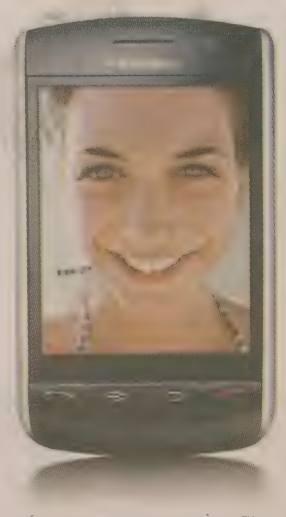

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- Mayfair Shopping Centre
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ON CAMPUS

THURSDAY, FEB. 26

Chance of the Dice: Ethics in the Event of Middle English Literature
4:30 - 6 p.m.
Clearihue Building, A311

Dr. Allan Mitchell's work considers the ways in which writers between 1200 and 1550 deploy the notion of fortune to make moral discriminations, and how texts deal with unpredictable events such as sexual attraction, traumatic accidents, political disasters, social contests and narrative itself — locating in fortune the very potentiality of ethical life.

Fee: Free
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The Achievement of Early Greek Philosophy
7 - 10 p.m.
David Strong Building, C128

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Fee: Free
Info: 250-853-3120
philweb@uvic.ca

Klahowya Tillicum: Coming Home to the Stories and Songs of the West Coast
7 - 8:30 p.m.
David Strong Building, C118

Professor J. Edward Chamberlin's interest in stories and songs has taken him around the world, to the hunters of the Kalahari and the herders of Mongolia as well as the aboriginal peoples of North America.

Fee: Free
Info: 250-721-7235
cdouglas@uvic.ca

La Ronde
8 - 10 p.m.
Phoenix Theatre

Follow the trail of love, passion and seduction through Vienna's society in the 1890s. From a soldier and a prostitute, to an actress and a count, the intimate relationships of ten interconnected couples unfold like a witty, frolicking music round to comment on the sexual mores and class ideology of the day.

Fee: $12 - $22
Info: 250-721-8000
theatre@uvic.ca

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

Icons of a Border: A Photographic Search for Traces in Today's Berlin
7:30 - 9 p.m.
McPherson Library Gallery

The exhibit highlights the photographic exploration of 36 students from the University of Paderborn who documented both the visible and invisible remnants of the Berlin Wall in modern day Germany.

Fee: Free
Info: 250-721-6313
Maltpub@finearts.uvic.ca

Incorporating biological realism in predator-prey models
2:30 - 4 p.m.
Cunningham Building, 146

Pavel's thesis investigates ecological mechanisms that reduce the strength of trophic interactions and thereby contribute to the stability and persistence of food webs. He has shown how non-trophic interactions reduce the strengths of feeding links, and provides a general explanation of why diverse food webs can be more stable.

Fee: Free
Info: bioclerk@uvic.ca

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

Life Drawing
10 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Visual Arts Building, A150

$5 drop in fee. Please contact Suzanne at sbean@uvic.ca for further information. Open to the public. All skill levels welcome!

Fee: $5
Info: sbean@uvic.ca

MONDAY, MARCH. 2

Creative Discourses: Perspectives on Art and the Environment
All Day
Visual Arts Building, Main Galleries

Explore what the environment means to artists in Greater Victoria. This show is comprised a variety of mediums - sculpture, photography, paintings and more. Proudly supported by the UVSS, UVSP, Faculty of Fine Arts and the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability.

Art Show and Silent Auction runs from March 2 to 6.

Fee: Free
Info: 250-721-6678
swebb@uvic.ca

TUESDAY, MARCH. 3

Biogeochemistry of dust from the Iraq War and the potential for chronic health effects
3:30 - 5 p.m.
Engineering and Computer Science Building, 124

Dr. Mark B. Lyles, Bureau of Medicine and Surgery, United States Navy.

Fee: Free
Info: 250-721-6120
eosc@uvic.ca

Cosmology Lansdowne Public Lecture: Dark Matters
7:30 - 8:30 p.m.
Bob Weight Centre, B150

One of the greatest mysteries in the cosmos is that it is mostly dark. That is, not only is the night sky dark, but also most of the matter in the universe is dark. For every atom visible in planets, stars and galaxies today there exists at least five or six times as much "dark matter" in the universe.

Astronomers and particle physicists today are seeking to unravel the nature of this mysterious, but pervasive dark matter which has profoundly influenced the formation of structure in the universe.

Fee: Free
Info: babul@uvic.ca

Ikonen einer Grenzanlage
All Day
Harry Hickman Building, 110

Almost 20 years after the fall of the Berlin wall, remnants of the division of Germany and the wall exist in various manifestations.

After a brief discussion, we will explore the traces of the wall by visiting a photographic exhibition on display at the McPherson Library Art Gallery from February 26.

Fee: Free
Info: 250-721-7320
helgat@uvic.ca

WEDNESDAY, MARCH. 4

Let There Be Light: Galaxy Formation for the Novice
3:30 - 5 p.m.
Engineering and Computer Science Building, 125

In this talk, I will review our current understanding of galaxy formation and assess the challenges that lie ahead.

Fee: Free
Info: mshen@uvic.ca

History Writing and History Telling: Indigenous Peoples and the Historiography of British Columbia
4:30 - 5:30 p.m.
Engineering and Computer Science Building, 124

A noticeable trend in mainstream historiography for British Columbia is the lack of acknowledgement of Indigenous peoples as vital members of the 20th century with individual colonial experiences. For my presentation I will problematize this issue, highlighting the extent to which 20th-century Indigenous peoples have been slotted almost exclusively into a 19th-century time-frame or, worse, into a pre-contact time-frame.

Fee: Free
Info: 250-721-6325
csrs@uvic.ca

LIVE CONCERTS

THURSDAY, FEB. 26

ZONE BAND OF THE MONTH: Franco, Hollydene @ Evolution
9 p.m. - 2 a.m.
(No Minors).

Fee: $9 at the door
$7 in advance

Lesbian Fist Magnet, Blood Nasty, the Banned, Novice Numpty Ty Lee @ Logan's Pub
9 p.m. - 1 a.m.
(No Minors).

Fee: $6

DJ Kenzie Clarke @ Lucky Bar
10 p.m.
(No Minors).

Fee: $5

Akwaaaba Benefit @ The Upstairs Cabaret
10 p.m.
(No Minors).

Fee: $6 at door

FRIDAY, FEB. 27

DJ Degree, DJ Anger @ The Cambie at the Esquimalt Inn
9 p.m.
(No Minors).

Fee: $5

Mile Zero @ Esquimalt Legion Esquimalt BC
8:30 - 11:30 p.m., doors at 7:30 p.m.
(No Minors).

Fee: $2

Peter Willing Band & Guests @ Langford Legion
8 p.m. - 12 a.m., doors at 7 p.m.
(No Minors).

Fee: Free

Mishka, Vince Vaccaro, Dirty Heads @ Sugar
9 p.m.
(No Minors).

Fee: $15

The Superior Cafe: Dinner with the John MacArthur Trio @ The Superior
7 - 10 p.m., doors at 5 p.m.
(All Ages).

Fee: $5 donation

SATURDAY, FEB. 28

Rocky Mountain Rebel Music, Beechwood Harmonics @ Black Stilt Coffee House
9 p.m. - 12 a.m., doors at 8 p.m.
(All Ages).

Fee: $5

Midlife Crisis @ The Goose & Trestle Pub
9 p.m. - 12:30 a.m.
(No Minors).

Fee: Free

Preston McCool @ Hermann's Jazz Club
4:30 - 11 p.m., doors at 4 p.m.
(No Minors).

Fee: $10

Zbigniew Karkowski and Atsuko Nojiri @ Open Space
8 - 10 p.m., doors at 7:30 p.m.
(All Ages).

Fee: $12 at the door
$10 in advance

CLASSIFIEDS

HOUSE CLEANING AVAILABLE for weekly contracts. Eco-friendly, professional, and meticulous. References on request. Contact Cynthia @ 250-412-6053, please leave message.

WANTED Used Macintosh laptop. Phone 385-2178.

ROOF AND GUTTER INSPECTION, repairs, re-roofing, power washing, 250-380-5685, BBB.

OLD WINERY SELF STORAGE
Clean, secure, indoor lockers.
Open 7 days a week.
3952 Quadra Street
Behind the Keg. 250-727-2311

ONE FORCE FITNESS Personal Training, by students for students. Contact clemensk@uvic.ca or 250-886-9918.

HELP WANTED Kitchen Helper to wash dishes, peel vegetables, do preparations, mopping, $12/hour, for De Dutch Pancake House/Carlton Plaza Victoria, at 642 Johnson Street. Apply in person with resume weekdays.

FOR SALE, Gordon Head renovated 3 bed 2 bath Rancher with attached one bedroom Nanny Accommodation. $461,900. Gunnar at Pemberton Holmes 250-884-0933.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Become a Crisis Line Volunteer with the NEED Crisis & Information Line. You can learn the "Fine Heart of Listening." Make a difference in your community and in your own life! Please call 250-386-6328 or visit our website at: www.needcrisis.bc.ca

HOLMES
REALTY
2481 Beacon Ave. Sidney BC V8L 1X9 ph: 250 656-0911 cell: 250 882-6680
fax: 250 656-2435 e: greg@gregrowland.ca www.gregrowland.ca

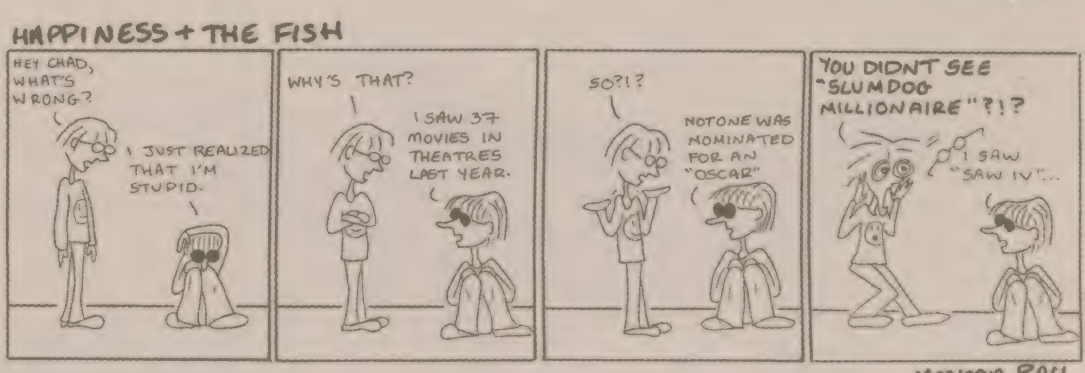
Comics

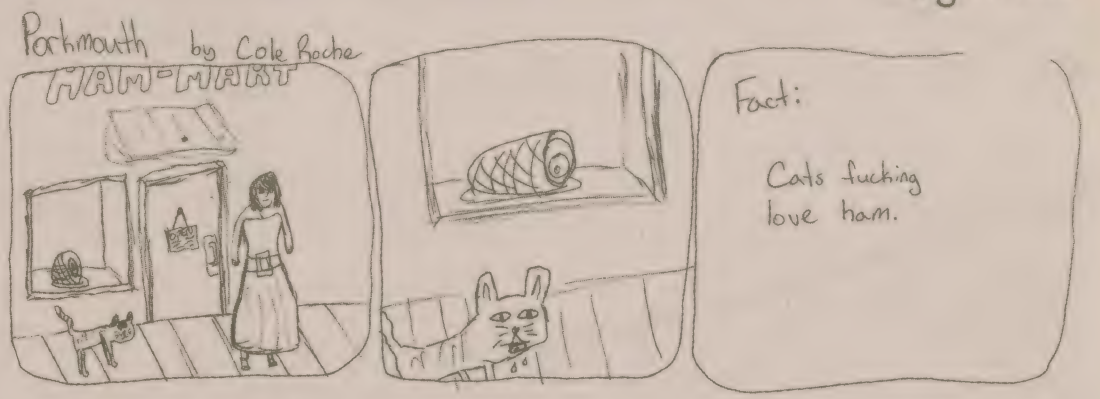
BUNNS
HEY PATCHES? DO YOU EVER WONDER IF WE ACTUALLY EXIST?
THINK ABOUT IT! WE ONLY ACTUALLY EXIST THROUGH OUR ACTIONS
WHAT I MEAN IS LOOK AT US, WE DON'T REALLY DO ANYTHING...
YOU REALLY NEED TO STOP HANGING OUT WITH THOSE EXISTENTIALIST SQUIRRELS NEAR THE PHILOSOPHY DEPARTMENT.
BUNNSCOMIC.COM
© GLEN O'NEILL 2008-09

CORP EVIL
Blackbeard was the most fierce and ruthless pirate on the high seas.
It all started one day when I unplugged a cord from a random outlet...
It turned out to be the cord for Blackbeard's coffee maker.
Yarrr!!!

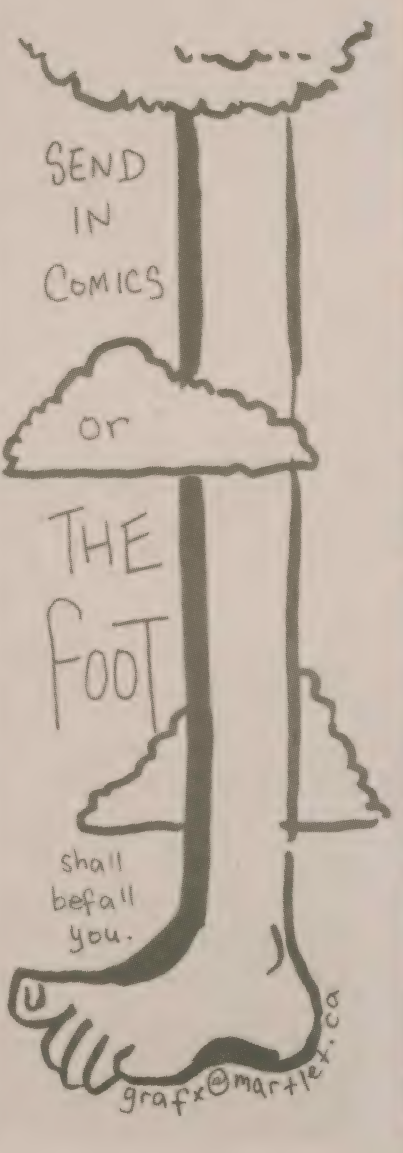
NORTH-EASTLYNX
Wow! Huck, check out this Battle of the Bands ad. Look at the prize money!
Meh.
"Meh"? What do you mean, "meh"? That's not even a word, let alone a response, Huck.
I dunno... is it even worth it?
Well, if we win this, we won't have to work for, like, two months or something...
Ping
northeastlynx@gmail.com

DECOMPOSITION
BY ERIK
PART 1... OF 17!
OKAY, OKAY... I'LL TELL U HOW IT ALL STARTED...
IT'S WEIRD!
...
THERE'S A FUCKING STICK IN MY MIRROR!!!
WHAT... THE...
FUCK!
... IT'S THE MORNING... IN THE BATHROOM... FEELING ROUGH...
HUNG OVER! ...GOD!
...WHEN SUDDEN-LY...
...
??
NO, I'M SERIOUS !!
WEIRD, RIGHT?
... JUST A STICK! A TWIG! LIKE, FROM A TREE! ... AND IT'S STICKING OUT OF THE MIRROR!!
WHAT DID I DO, YOU ASK?
AAH! AAH! AAH!
I FREAKED RIGHT THE FUCK OUT, THAT'S WHAT I DID!!
... AND LET ME TELL YOU...
!
IT'S NO ORDINARY TWIG!
SHIT!
IT'S FUCKED UP!
TO BE CONTINUED ...
WHAT WOULD YOU DO?
rocco.roxy@gmail.com


HAPPINESS + THE FISH
HEY CHAD, WHAT'S WRONG?
I JUST REALIZED THAT I'M STUPID.
WHY'S THAT?
I SAW 37 MOVIES IN THEATRES LAST YEAR.
SO?!?
NOT ONE WAS NOMINATED FOR AN "OSCAR"
YOU DIDN'T SEE "SLUMDOG MILLIONAIRE"?!?
I SAW "SAW IV"...
Megnan Bell


Portsmouth by Cole Roche
HAM-MART
Fact:
Cats fucking love ham.

Smith vs. Smith: "The Drawbacks of Having Your Own Semi-Autobiographical Comic Strip"
By Matt Smith! ©2009
How come I'm not in your comic?
You should totally make a comic about this!
I don't get it. Can you explain it?
This better not end up in your comic.
Dude, you make me look like a dick!
You made my boobs look HUGE!
I calls 'em like I sees 'em
I don't remember saying that.
Why do you draw me so ugly?
Why can't you do a comic like Calvin and Hobbes?
Or Bunns?
Ok, I get it, but it's not really funny.
You should do more comics about Felipe. He's funnier than you.
Bonus Smith vs. Smith!
"The Rewards of Having Your Own Semi-Autobiographical Comic Strip"
Hey, Matt, I saw your latest comic.
And?
Meuh, It was alright.


SEND IN
COMICS
or
THE FOOT
shall befall you.
grafx@martlet.ca

Checkerpop.com: "a continuing story"
by marc and denver.
SNKT
BUT WAIT!
I AM A MAGIC WIZARD FROM THE FUTURE. I HAVE A MISSION FOR YOU. YOU MUST SAVE THE WORLD!

PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT PAID ADVERTISEMENT

2009 UVSS 2009

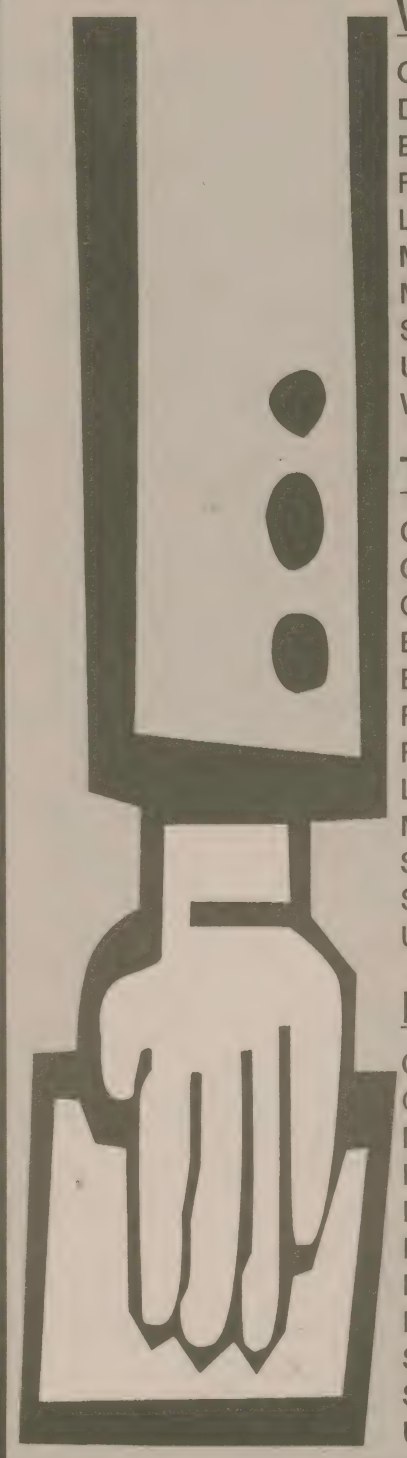
ELECTION PLATFORMS

for BOARD OF DIRECTORS
(Executive and Directors at Large)

BOARD OF GOVERNORS and SENATE

PLATFORMS

POLLING STATIONS MARCH 4•5•6



WEDNESDAY MARCH 4

Clearihue	9:00am - 8:00pm
David Strong	9:00am - 12:00pm
Eng. Lab Wing	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Fine Arts	9:00am - 12:00pm
Library	9:00am - 8:00pm
MacLaurin	9:00am - 4:00pm
McKinnon	1:00pm - 4:00pm
SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm
University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm
Wright Centre	1:00pm - 4:00pm

THURSDAY MARCH 5

Clearihue	9:00am - 8:00pm
Commons	5:00pm - 7:00pm
Cornett	1:00pm - 4:00pm
ECS	9:00am - 4:00pm
Elliott	9:00am - 12:00pm
Fine Arts	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Fraser	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Library	9:00am - 8:00pm
MacLaurin	9:00am - 4:00pm
SSM	1:00pm - 4:00pm
SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm
University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm

FRIDAY MARCH 6

Clearihue	9:00am - 4:00pm
Cornett	1:00pm - 4:00pm
David Strong	1:00pm - 4:00pm
ECS	9:00am - 4:00pm
Elliott	9:00am - 12:00pm
ELW	1:00pm - 4:00pm
HSD	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Library	9:00am - 4:00pm
SSM	11:00am - 3:00pm
SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm
University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

Candidates for the UVSS Board of Directors, Senate & BoG will be outlining their platforms and answering any questions you might have.

MONDAY FEB 23
All Candidates Forum #1
ECS C125 (1:00PM)

THURSDAY FEB 26
All Candidates Forum #2
Cinecenta (11:00AM)

MONDAY MAR 2
Chairperson Debate
Cinecenta (1:00PM)

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND WHAT IT DOES - A Brief Introduction

One of the more common misconceptions about the Students' Society is that the UVSS consists *of* the Board of Directors. The UVSS, in fact, is made up of the 17,000+ undergraduate students attending UVic, including the Board of Directors, who work on their behalf. To say that the Board *is* the UVSS is to deny the democratic mechanisms which are in place for students to effect change within their Society. Students can have input through participating in Students' Society committee meetings, Semi-Annual and Annual General Meetings and in General Elections.

The Board of Directors (BoD) is a body of students elected by students, to allocate the Students' Society budget, implement campaigns, advocate on behalf of students, maintain the Students' Society's services, and develop the membership. It is not a 'student government'; the BoD has no legislative power over its electorate in a manner similar to that of Parliament.

Each member of the Board has a duty with other Board members to further the interests of the Society, and is responsible and answerable to the membership.

CONSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF DIRECTORS

The four Executive Director positions are :

Chairperson
Director of Academics
Director of Finance
Director of Services

The Chairperson, constitutionally, is the spokesperson of the Society, liaising with the university administration, different levels of government, and the Canadian Federation of Students (CFS) national and provincial offices. The Chairperson regularly chairs the BoD meetings, which must occur at least twice per month. They are responsible for preparing policy of the Society, and assisting in all Society publications. As well, the Chairperson sits on the executive committee of the Graduating Class.

The Director of Academics is the chair of the Course Union Council, and the liaison with the Ombudsperson's office, student members on Senate, and the Board of Governors. They are also responsible for the communication and advertising for the Society, and for initiating and coordinating the speakers programs and any other programs of an academic nature.

The Director of Finance is responsible for all financial records, policies, contracts and statements of the Society and the preparation of the Society's annual budget. In addition, the Director of Finance acts as a liaison between the unionized and non-unionized staff and the BoD through the Personnel Committee.

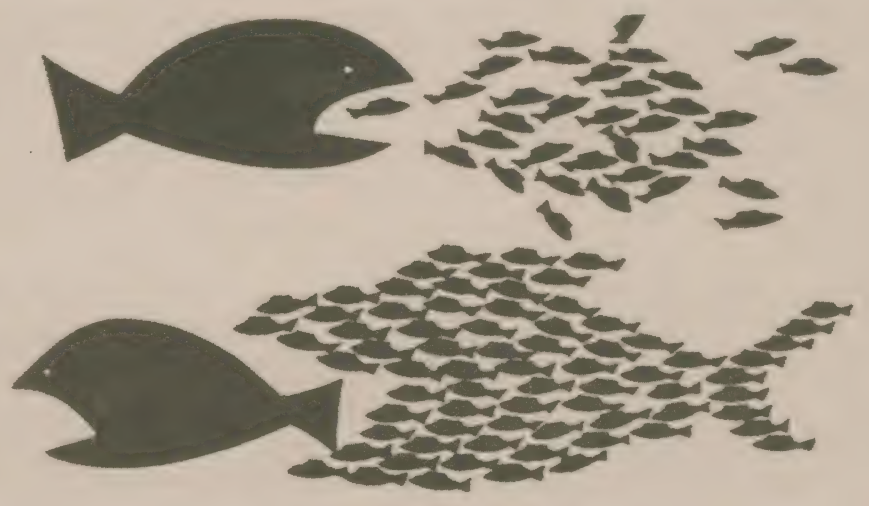
The Director of Services is the chair of the Clubs Council, and the chief liaison between the staff and members of the Society (through the General Manager). They are responsible for initiating and coordinating orientation, exchange and charity programs, and for all other non-academic programs. In addition, the Director of Services acts as a liaison between the unionized and non-unionized staff and the BoD through the Personnel Committee.

At-Large Directors and Constituency Organisation Representatives are responsible for assisting the Executive Directors in carrying out their duties and also scrutinizing Executive Director activities. They assist in coordinating and implementing all levels of campaigns concerning education defense and must participate on at least two committees of the Students' Society. The Constituency Organisation Representatives are also responsible for liaising with their respective constituency organisations.

All the directors together shape policy, run campaigns, prepare the budget, resolve administrative decisions, and generally deal with the business of the Society. The offices of the Executive Directors are found in the Resource Centre (B103), which also houses research material about student and social issues, gathered over the years by involved students and the Canadian Federation of Students.

Students pay a fee each semester to the UVSS, and to the CFS. Both fees are referendum based - that is, students have chosen, by majority, to levy themselves a fee for the operation of the UVSS and the services it provides. The UVSS holds two General meetings per year (October and February), when each registered student has speaking rights and a vote so that they may have direct input into the direction of the organisation, and the policies and budget priorities for the year.

Most of the business of the BoD is actually conducted through committees. The newly elected BoD begins its term on May 1st. At that time, the committees are struck for the year. Some committees are standing committees of the Students' Society as per the UVSS Constitution and Bylaws and must be activated each year. Other committees are standing committees of the Board and, although often no less important, can be struck or not at the discretion of the existing Board.



•ELECTION PLATFORMS• EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

CHAIRPERSON

KYLA BERRY

Yes!

As a blind student in my final year at UVic I would be honoured to serve as Chairperson of the UVSS. My priority is to make our student union a well run organization that we can be proud of.

LEADERSHIP

My leadership style is collaborative, respectful and inclusive.

- Welcome the perspectives of students from all faculties
- Provide principle leadership
- Work with undergraduates to be a powerful force on campus and in our community.

CHANGE

As President of the Access Association of Disabled Students I've seen first hand what even a very small group can accomplish when its members share a clear and focused purpose.

DIRECTION

The UVSS has been featured in a less than flattering light in national and local media. Together we can:

- Restore and enhance a positive public image of our Student Society..
- Address and resolve conflict quickly and fairly.
- Regularly evaluate Board and Management performance

BC ELECTION

With a provincial election coming up in May, it is important for students to unite and speak with one voice. I will:

- Liaise with student leaders from UBC and Simon Fraser
- Work together for post secondary education that is affordable and accessible for all students.

DISABILITY

For some of you I may be an unexpected candidate. If elected I will be the first blind leader of a student union anywhere in Canada.

Living with disability gives me certain strengths:

- An acceptance of human differences and interdependence as part of life
- Skill in managing multiple problems, systems, technology and assistants
- A flexible, adaptive approach to tasks
- An ability to construct complex plans taking into account multiple contingencies and realistically anticipated obstacles.

Visit my Executive slate on Facebook: Yes! to Leadership.

ELECT KYLA BERRY
CHAIRPERSON

CHAIRPERSON

VERONICA HARRISON

TeamFAST

I am running for Chairperson with ***Team ForA Sustainable Tomorrow*** on a platform committed to making our lives as students **more affordable**, our **education of higher quality**, and our **campus community** vibrant and **environmentally sustainable.**

Now in my third year of Psychology and Political Science, I have been active in campus clubs and course unions and as an elected Student Senator. As a two term Director-at-Large with the UVSS, working together with other students, I:

- ✔ Brought back the **SUB Party**
- ✔ Helped organize municipal and federal election debates and the successful Sue Johansson event
- ✔ **Lobbied for late-night transit** and helped establish the **new Victoria Mayor's late night transit task force**
- ✔ Led UVic's contribution to the national **"Grants not Loans" campaign**, establishing Canada's first national system of low and middle-income student grants

As your Chairperson, I am committed to:

Affordable Education

- ✔ Seek commitments from government to invest in universities and colleges and **reduce tuition fees**
- ✔ Work to reduce UVic's co-op and ancillary fees
- ✔ Create an **affordable student housing** action plan
- ✔ Lobby UVic to address the high cost of course materials
- ✔ Lobby to reduce student loan interest rates

Campus Community

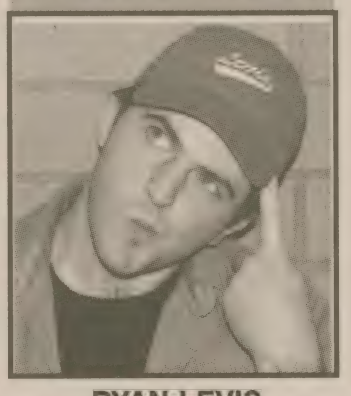
- ✔ **Support clubs and course unions** by providing resources and promoting the special projects grant
- ✔ Organize a variety of social events, including beer gardens, concerts and a **bigger SUB Party**
- ✔ Host lectures and screenings promoting social justice and work to see that **UVSS constituency groups** have the resources they need
- ✔ Work on **improving communication** between the UVSS and the student body

Sustainability

- ✔ Continue to fight for transit improvements
- ✔ Implement a **SUB sustainability audit**
- ✔ Ensure the long term **equitable financial sustainability** of the SUB and its operations

Vote Veronica HARRISON
Chairperson
TeamFAST.ca

CHAIRPERSON



RYAN LEVIS

Independent Chairperson.

I am disillusioned by politicians and I am sick of messages telling me what to do with my life, but if you can't beat 'em join 'em.

My name is RYAN LEVIS. I'm running as **Independent Chairperson** for the **UVSS**. I feel that nothing political acknowledges that humanity has feelings; all I hear is distant rhetoric and naiveté about stuff that none of us have control over. We need to focus on tangibility; our campus can become a national hub for debate and expression.

I may discuss "the world" in this letter, but I intend to see changes through *on campus*. I want us all to interact more, through cross discipinary talks, new and old medias, creative expression and whatever else surfaces. I believe a Harmony Movement can begin at Uvic. S(he) says: Yea, what!?

We are not machines! Yet we are expected to perform perfection? The Digital Age kinda sucks; are we becoming un-human? Has emotion become obsolete? Can we not discuss emotional content through speech, instead type? If billions of people function mostly indoors, what are we trying to save the world for? We all seriously need to talk because big (Orwell/Huxley) trouble is coming. Electing me (RYAN LEVIS) is about electing your freedom of expression. I am an **Independent candidate**, just like you, an independent person with no obligations to the idealogical slavery that is party politics.

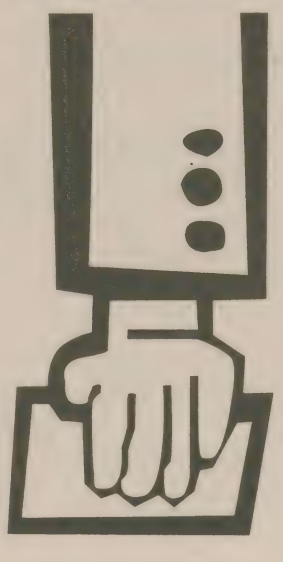
I will listen, unbiased and vulnerable. I will represent you nationally with cunning, shared vision and fearlessness. I will work to facilitate all types of expression from our students and I will get noticed. Guaranteed.

In closing, I am running as **Independent Chairperson**, for myself, to become a cultural/creative entraprenuer.

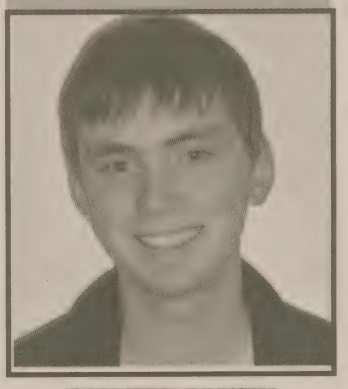
Ideas: coffee stands / colosseum debate/ afternoon entertainment/ re-think UVSS promotions/expand volenteerism.

RYAN LEVIS

Independent Chairperson.
(S.V.P.& Thankyou)



CHAIRPERSON



CURTIS SMITH

BANG!

I want to improve the undergraduate experience for all students at the University of Victoria, the best way to do that is to use my skills and abilities in the position of UVSS Chairperson. I am a fourth-year Political Science student and I want to be your Chairperson because the UVSS needs to provide more for its membership. When elected, I will follow a "3P" approach:

PEOPLE:

- Work to create a good relationship between Vikes and the UVSS in order to run new, innovative events that make campus more inclusive
- Create and operate a UVSS late night shuttle service from downtown

PLANET:

- Retrofit the SUB to improve energy efficiency through improved heating, lighting and plumbing systems
- Start implementing energy creating initiatives in the SUB to work towards taking the SUB off the grid

PROFIT:

- Reform SUBText into an online business to create space for a new SUB business
- Renegotiate the UVSS Health and Dental Plan to save YOU money.

My experience includes:

- President of the Undergraduate Politics Society
- Vice President-External of the Canadian Political Science Students Association
- Member of the Model United Nations Club
- UVSS Representative on the Senate Sub-Committee on Academic Standards
- UVSS Representative on the Senate Sub-Committee on Continuing Studies
- Participant in UVic Intramurals

UVSS Chairperson is a position I will undertake with humility and empathy. I want to provide balanced and rational leadership coupled with a strong work ethic to improve the quality of services provided by this students' society. The UVSS needs to balance environmental and social responsibility with creative economic management in order to recover from the labour dispute it suffered during the fall.

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment,*

*vote for **Curtis Smith** and **BANG!***

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD!

FINANCE

JUSTIN LEVINE

Yes!

Our student society is well positioned to weather the current economic downturn, but managing our funds wisely is more important than ever.

RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT

As a 3rd year student in public administration one area of my academic focus is the sound management of non profit organizations and charities. I believe the UVSS, as a non-profit organization, would benefit from a review of its organizational strengths, weaknesses and priorities.

OUR BUSINESS

From a finance and management perspective, the strike that shut down our Student Union Building for two months this year ought to have been anticipated and avoided.

- ✔ Establish better risk assessment.
- ✔ Plan for financial stability and success.
- ✔ Monitor labour practices
- ✔ Work towards financial recovery from losses caused by the strike.
- ✔ Restore the financial stability of the society.

TRANSPARENCY

Non-profit organizations benefit from easily accessible information regarding all financial decisions.

- ✔ Ensure clarity, openness and accountability.

GREEN BUSINESS PRACTICES

- ✔ Invest in energy efficient technology to reduce the long term cost of utilities in the SUB.
- ✔ Support local farmers and island businesses.
- ✔ Give financial awards to clubs for sustainable and environmentally friendly practices.

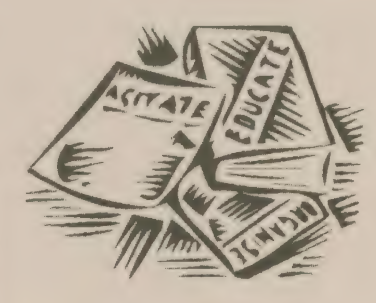
Responsible management of the eight million dollar annual budget of our student Society will be my top priority. Your millions, your vote.

I'm running to put your money and ideas into action. If elected I will always keep an open door and welcome your input.

If you have ideas or questions about Finance please visit our Facebook group: YES! To leadership.

Vote YES **to accountability.**

ELECT JUSTIN LEVINE



•ELECTION PLATFORMS• EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

FINANCE

EDWARD PULLMAN

TeamFAST

The UVSS can be a powerful voice for student interests, but with the limited resources of a Students' Society, your elected representatives must be effective managers. Along with the rest of the ***Team For A Sustainable Tomorrow***, I will work to improve our SUB businesses and allocate our resources effectively to ensure that the UVSS maintains strong advocacy for student interests, works tirelessly to improve student services, and holds kick-ass student events throughout the year.

This past year as your Director of Academics, my accomplishments include:

- ✔ Chairing Course Union Council and the Communications Committee, and membership on the Finance Committee, Political Action Committee, and Special Events Committee
- ✔ Hosting municipal and federal election **debates, speakers on rapid transit** in Victoria, and **Sunday Night Sex Talk host Sue Johansson**
- ✔ Working with fellow team members to **secure the establishment of the new Mayor of Victoria's task force on late night transit**
- ✔ Creating the **new UVSS website**

My work in all areas of the UVSS's operations over the past year will serve me well as Director of Finance. I am committed to:

Affordable Education:

- ✔ Securing government commitments to fund our universities and colleges and reduce education's cost
- ✔ Investigating improvements to our Health and Dental plan, including greater coverage for eye and dental care

Campus Community:

- ✔ Working closely with student clubs, course unions, and SUB businesses to promote the use of SUB facilities and generate revenue
- ✔ Throwing a September SUB Party
- ✔ Working towards the implementation of late night transit

Sustainability:

- ✔ Lobbying the University to enlarge our campus community garden and improve waste disposal systems in campus buildings
- ✔ Lobbying BC Transit to implement a bus route connecting Gordon Head and UVic

Vote Edward PULLMAN

Director of Finance

TeamFAST.ca

FINANCE

TERESA SIMS

BANG!

As a fourth year International Business student, I have developed the skills necessary to manage the UVSS' budget responsibly. In a time of economic recession, I will employ fiscal practices that are sustainable in nature while ensuring that students are provided with access to exemplary services.

When elected, I will:

PEOPLE

- Develop a sub-committee for International Students to ensure their voice within the UVSS
- Implement free student workshops on financial planning, resume building, networking etc.

PLANET

- Retrofit the SUB with cost-effective green technology
- Oversee a "Letter of Commitment" on behalf of the UVSS for the United Nations Global Compact

PROFIT

- Reform the SUBtext into an online archived business in order to better utilize the space for new business opportunities (i.e. Consignment store)

My financial experience includes:

- Commerce courses such as Managerial Accounting, Financial Accounting, Management Finance and International Finance
- Model UN Club Finance Minister
- Commerce Students' Society Vice-President Finance
- Undergraduate Politics Society Director-of-Finance
- Senate Committee on the University Budget
- Auditing as a Quality Assurance Analyst for the BC Government

Other experience I possess comprises of:

- Commerce Students' Society Vice-President Internal
- UVSS Director-at-Large
- University Student Senator
- Model UN Club Vice President and PR & Communications
- President Advisory Council's Convocation Committee

Committees I have sat on in 2008-2009 consist of:

- Senate Committee on Nominations and Committee Governance
- UVSS Special Events
- UVSS Organizational Development
- UVSS Course Union Council
- CSS Charity Fashion Show Committee
- CSS Five Days for the Homeless Campaign
- Student Advisory Council for Federal Government Coop and Career Fair

As you can see, my experience makes me the ideal candidate for the Director-of-Finance position.

*If you are looking for a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment,*

*vote **Teresa Sims** and **BANG!***

POLLING STATIONS

WEDNESDAY MARCH 4

Clearihue	9:00am - 8:00pm
David Strong	9:00am - 4:00pm
Eng. Lab Wing	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Fine Arts	9:00am - 12:00pm
Library	9:00am - 8:00pm
MacLaurin	9:00am - 4:00pm
McKinnon	1:00pm - 4:00pm
SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm
University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm
Wright Centre	1:00pm - 4:00pm

THURSDAY MARCH 5

Clearihue	9:00am - 8:00pm
Commons	5:00pm - 7:00pm
Cornett	1:00pm - 4:00pm
ECS	9:00am - 4:00pm
Elliott	9:00am - 12:00pm
Fine Arts	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Fraser	1:00pm - 4:00pm
SSM	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Library	9:00am - 8:00pm
MacLaurin	9:00am - 4:00pm
SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm
University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm

FRIDAY MARCH 6

Clearihue	9:00am - 4:00pm
Cornett	1:00pm - 4:00pm
David Strong	1:00pm - 4:00pm
ECS	9:00am - 4:00pm
Elliott	9:00am - 12:00pm
ELW	1:00pm - 4:00pm
HSD	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Library	9:00am - 4:00pm
SSM	11:00am - 3:00pm
SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm
University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm

Please vote March 4, 5 & 6

AND DON'T FORGET YOUR STUDENT ID

ACADEMICS

JEN COMER

BANG!

The University of Victoria is at a crossroads, our globe is at a tipping point, and we need young leaders who will help guide our university in a sustainable direction. As a fourth year Honours Geography Student I believe that UVic has a responsibility to support **sustainability, social justice,** and **fiscal accountability**. We are the generation who has to find solutions to complex global problems; and it starts here, with our campus. As the Director for Academics I will use a Triple Bottom Line approach with my "3P" platform:

PEOPLE:

- Connect students with the greater community, and give students an opportunity for 'real life' experience
- Get students to do research on potential SUB improvements as part of course work
- Organize a Green Job Fair to promote sustainable coops and post-undergraduate careers

PLANET:

- Make the SUB a model of sustainability by retrofitting it with green technology to lower energy consumption
- Support and create more local food options within the SUB
- Expand the composting facilities for the SUB

PROFIT:

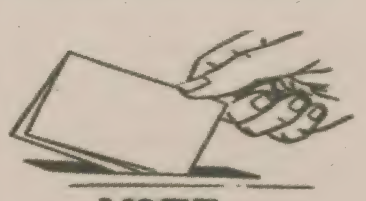
- Turn SUBText into a consignment store for student clothing
- Revitalize Vertigo into a fun, usable and vibrant space

My experience includes:

- Working as the Sustainability Coordinator in the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability this year
- Employment with the Provincial Government and with local municipalities
- Serving as the Society of Geography Students (SOGS) undergraduate representative for Faculty Council Meetings
- SOGS Representative on the Geography Undergraduate Advisory Committee
- Organizing student forums for the Geography departmental review to ensure students concerns and suggestions are carried forward

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment,*

vote for **Jen Comer** and **BANG!**



VOTE

ACADEMICS

MEAGHAN KERR

TeamFAST

I'm a second-year Russian and Environmental Studies student, and I'm stoked to be seeking re-election.

After a difficult start this year, we worked hard for the UVSS to run strong campaigns, put on awesome events, and reconnect ties in the SUB, as well as improve services. If re-elected, I would give my all to keep the SUB on track, and not just financially. I want to make the SUB the **hub for parties, activism, and community.**

This year as a Director at Large, I chaired the UVSS Environmental Responsibility Committee. I would continue the commitment to environmental and social advocacy as Academics Executive next year. I'm excited to be running with everyone on ***Team For A Sustainable Tomorrow.***

As Director at Large I:

- ✔ Facilitated events on food security, water privatization, and natural resources management
- ✔ Provided input to UVic's Sustainability Action Plan
- ✔ Hosted an eco-friendly artisan market
- ✔ Organized Bike Pride, a 2-day love-your-bike party

As Director of Academics I will work to:

Affordable Education

- ✔ Seriously **improve communication** with course unions; **strengthen ties** with student representatives on Board of Governors and Senate; make the UVSS more **transparent and open**
- ✔ Lobby UVic to place required readings in the library reserve, encourage professors to utilize **free academic resources** like Moodle and Blackboard, and agitate for **lower textbook prices**

Campus Community

- ✔ Improve the design of student agendas
- ✔ Make a new **UVSS website more informative** and open
- ✔ Host speakers to address current affairs and social justice issues

Environmental Sustainability

- ✔ Continue work with Campus Urban Agriculture to establish an **interdisciplinary permaculture centre** at UVic
- ✔ Introduce **local foods** on campus through connections with small-scale farms
- ✔ Continue to develop a more efficient **composting and recycling** system in the SUB

Vote Meaghan KERR

Director of Academics

TeamFAST.ca

•ELECTION PLATFORMS• EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS

ACADEMICS

MEHAK MEHRA

Yes!

We need to be sure, in an increasingly diverse student community, that everyone is represented and listened to.

INCLUSIVE STUDENT SOCIETY

- ✔ Ensure that the Student union Building and our Student Society is warm and welcoming.
- ✔ Identify and remove systemic barriers to greater participation in the student union by students from all backgrounds and every faculty.
- ✔ Engage students by creating academic activities that benefit a wide range of Faculties and Course Unions.

As Director of Academics, my top priority will be the quality of our academic education.

QUALITY OF EDUCATION

- ✔ Challenge the university to move from the rhetoric of social justice and sustainability to genuine and substantial action.
- ✔ Promote best practices in curriculum development, course design and classroom instruction.
- ✔ We need to stop policies and practices that hinder excellence in teaching and learning. These policies must be brought to the attention of University.

I believe that that our student union can be a well run and relevant organization that all students are proud to be part of. I am running on a promise of principled leadership.

ETHICAL GOVERNANCE

- ✔ Restore and enhance the reputation and positive public image of the UVSS on campus and in the broader community.
- ✔ Open, honest and accountable decision making, guided by the principles of administrative fairness.
- ✔ Establish a clear process for the appeal and review of decisions made by the UVSS board or its manager.
- ✔ Making the UVSS representative of the interests of all students.

If you have ideas or questions for services please visit our Facebook group: YES! to leadership.

Vote YES to diversity

ELECT MEHAK MEHRA
Director of Academics

SERVICES

JOSE BARRIOS

Yes!

Some of the most valuable education we experience at university will be outside the classroom. An exciting mix of campus clubs and community service, special events and work opportunities is key for a well rounded university experience.

SUSTAINABLE AND ACCESSIBLE

- ✔ Ethical and sustainable purchasing for all SUB businesses.
- ✔ Minimize the use of plastic and Styrofoam in all SUB food services.
- ✔ Fund an annual 'sustainable technology' competition on campus and encourage all faculties to participate.
- ✔ Identify and remove barriers to the full participation of students with disabilities in extracurricular activities
- ✔ Reward socially and environmentally conscious clubs and student associations.

CHANGE

As Director of Services it is also my responsibility to function as the chief liaison between the UVSS Board and it's management and staff.

There has been inadequate follow up to a bitter and costly strike which closed the Student Union Building for two months this fall. Causes and consequences remain unexplored.

- ✔ Ensure that we are fair and responsible employers
- ✔ Initiate a thorough review of our labour practices as an employer
- ✔ Gather feedback from our student staffers
- ✔ Benefit from the experience of our permanent full time staff
- ✔ Establish a work environment of open communication and respect

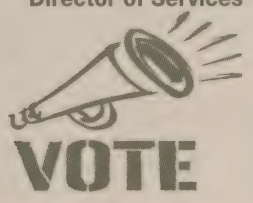
IMPROVEMENTS

- ✔ Extend the hours that study space and services are available in the SUB
- ✔ Address the lack of affordable student housing on and off campus
- ✔ Bring the various campus communities and faculties together for more events
- ✔ Initiate special events and fundraisers for local charities and socially active groups.

If you have ideas or questions for services please visit our Facebook group: YES! to leadership.

Vote YES to responsibility

ELECT JOSE BARRIOS
Director of Services



SERVICES

KYLE HOHMAN

BANG!

As a third year Bachelor of Economics student I have experienced many different educational opportunities and had the chance to immerse myself in multiple ways of life during my time at UVic. In this time, I have noticed that a lot of people make promises for things that they cannot deliver. I will not promise lower tuition fees or to fix the world because those are beyond the scope of student politics. What I promise are simple solutions to real problems that confront the ENTIRE student body. I have a three pillar approach based on three tenets of student life on campus.

When elected I will:

PEOPLE

- A shuttle service by students for students on Thursday, Friday, and Saturday nights running from downtown to campus
- A FROSH week at the beginning of the fall semester for ALL students, and another FROST week for ALL students at the beginning of the spring semester
- Work towards better representing the International Student voice in our Student Society

PLANET

- Remove the SUB from the power grid over five years, utilizing green technology and innovative solutions
- A thrift store on campus to allow students a cheaper and more ethical way to acquire what they need

PROFIT

- I believe that the sole purpose of the SUB is to provide services for ALL students, so I will listen to students about what THEY want from our SUB
- Turn Vertigo into an all ages lounge with open mic, pool tables and a bistro

*So if you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment,*

*vote **Kyle Hohman** and **BANG!***

SERVICES

HEATHER MCKENZIE

TeamFAST

The UVSS has a great culture of putting on a variety of events throughout the year. I'm excited to lead ***T**eam **F**or **A** **S**ustainable **T**omorrow* in building on that culture. I'm even more excited that our team is not only committed to great parties and campus community, but we are also committed to a principled Students' Society that will stand up for students and our environment.

This year I was an active Director at Large, a director on the UVic Sustainability Project, and a CFUV radio host. I will put that experience to work as your Director of Services. I will work toward:

Affordable Education

- ✔ Ensure that the next provincial government is committed to **reducing tuition fees** and adequately funding UVic
- ✔ Build on securing Canada's first national system of student grants by pressuring the provincial government to match federal grants
- ✔ Ensure instructors put **course material on reserve**

Campus Community

- ✔ Make student **events more affordable**
- ✔ Bring big-name bands and killer DJs for a **kick-off SUB Party in September**
- ✔ Host an array of **all-ages events,** such as open mic nights/coffee houses, the Sleeping Bag Drive-In, Corni-val, and a fair trade/eco-friendly market
- ✔ Make the SUB a **showcase for student and local talent,** from DJs, bands and hip hop groups, to art shows
- ✔ Bring together social, athletic, artistic, and other clubs to put on creative and interactive events
- ✔ Ensure **club policies reflect the needs and diversity** of the UVSS's many clubs

Sustainability

- ✔ Hold food security awareness events
- ✔ Lobby UVic to **expand agriculture space to supply local food choices on campus**
- ✔ Work toward a **disposable-free SUB**

I will bring enthusiasm, creativity, and experience to my work as your Director of Services.

Vote Heather MCKENZIE
Director of Services
TeamFAST.ca

BRING YOUR STUDENT ID

ALL CANDIDATES FORUMS

Candidates for the UVSS Board of Directors, Senate & BoG will be outlining their platforms and answering any questions you might have.

MONDAY
FEB 23
All Candidates Forum #1
ECS C125
(1:00PM)

THURSDAY
FEB 26
All Candidates Forum #2
Cinecenta
(11:00AM)

MONDAY
MAR 2
Chairperson Debate
Cinecenta
(1:00PM)

VOTE OUT LOUD

•ELECTION PLATFORMS• DIRECTORS AT LARGE

ALL CANDIDATES FORUM

MON FEB 23
ECS C125 (1:00PM)

THURS FEB 26
Cinecenta (11:00AM)

MON MAR 2
Chairperson Debate
Cinecenta (1:00PM)

WEDNESDAY MARCH 4

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THURSDAY MARCH 5

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Library	9:00am - 8:00pm
MacLaurin	9:00am - 4:00pm
SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm
University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm

FRIDAY MARCH 6

Clearihue	9:00am - 4:00pm
Cornett	1:00pm - 4:00pm
David Strong	1:00pm - 4:00pm
ECS	9:00am - 4:00pm
Elliott	9:00am - 12:00pm
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University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm

DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR STUDENT ID

NADIM ADATIA
BANG!

My name is Nadim Adatia, I'm a Political Science and Philosophy major running for Director-at-Large. My involvement with the school stretches from my social involvement performing for fundraisers and club events with the band Rock Bottom, to my academic involvement as an ambassador for UVic at this year's CPSSA conference in Edmonton. The recent SUB strike motivated me to seek out fresh, new people and ideas I will implement when elected. I will use a "3P" approach:

PEOPLE:
- Organize an annual FROSH week for first year students to encourage involvement, connecting new students to their new friends, school, and city
- Increase school spirit by structuring school-wide events around Vikes' athletic teams

PLANET:
- Sustainable reform to take the SUB off the power grid within 5 years

PROFIT:
- Convert SUBtext into an organized and inventoried e-business, creating an opportunity for a new student operated business, such as a thrift store, in its former location.

My involvement with Student Transition Services, the Undergraduate Politics Society, and Rock Bottom have helped me build incredible networks with people that I would like to share with the Board.

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment, vote for **Nadim Adatia** and* **BANG!**

JAMES COCCOLA
BANG!

UVic is a fantastic University with a lively student community, but things are changing quickly and the student's society needs to change with it. As a member of the Political Science and Geography course unions, I have the experience to be an effective and empathetic board member. When elected, I will follow a "3P" approach:

PEOPLE
- Keep students informed on UVSS and other student activities such as Vikes Athletics
- Create a late night shuttle service from downtown to UVic

PLANET
- Make the SUB a model of sustainability by retrofitting it with green technology to lower energy consumption
- Create sustainable sources of power to move the SUB off the grid

PROFIT
- Turn SUBtext into an online service, creating more space for student businesses

My experience includes:
- Undergraduate Politics Society Executive Member
- Social Planning Committee for the Society of Geography Students Chairperson
- Model United Nations Club Fundraising Committee
- UVic Curling Club Member

As a member of the UVSS I will work to keep the activities of our student union sustainable and accessible for all students.
Hola! Vote Coccola!

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment, vote for **James Coccola** and* **BANG!**

CHRISTINE COMRIE
TeamFAST

Being on the Board is an opportunity to really engage with a close-knit society where the common bond is being a student. I am running for Director at Large because I have learned so much from students in previous years and I feel I can continue to represent your interests and work hard to achieve the change needed in our community.

As the current Director of Services, I organized the return of the SUB Party, the popular Sleeping Bag Drive-In, and many other events, and worked to address critical issues like student debt. Re-electing me and ***Team For A Sustainable Tomorrow*** will ensure that issues that are pertinent to you as a student will continued to be addressed.

My issues of focus are:

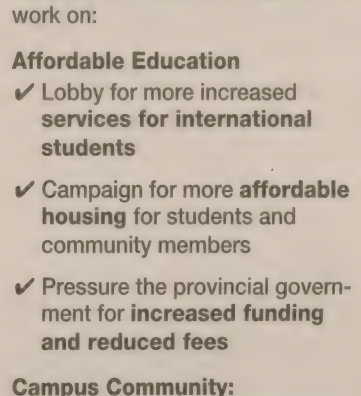
Affordable High-Quality Education
- ✔ Advocating towards **Grants not Loans**
- ✔ Maintaining the **cap on tuition fees**

Campus Community
- ✔ Promote **equity and diversity**
- ✔ Ensure the UVSS offers **something for everyone**
- ✔ **Bridging the gap for new students** on our vibrant campus

Environmental Sustainability
- ✔ **Better transit service**, especially late-night transit
- ✔ Support **public water fountains**
- ✔ **Increasing Local Food** offered on campus

Vote for experience, enthusiasm and an environmental consciousness.

Vote Christine COMRIE
TeamFAST.ca



MOHAMED GHILAN

I, Mohamed Ghilan, am excited and privileged to be running for the position of Director at Large with ***Team For A Sustainable Tomorrow***. I am enthusiastic and eager to represent UVic students on issues of **sustainability, affordable education** and **campus community.**

I am a dedicated UVic community member demonstrated by:
- ✔ Current President of the UVic Pre-Med Society
- ✔ Member of the Outreach Committee of the UVic Muslim Students' Association
- ✔ Executive Secretary of Vancouver Offshore Schools Group

As your Director at Large, I will work on:

Affordable Education
- ✔ Lobby for more increased **services for international students**
- ✔ Campaign for more **affordable housing** for students and community members
- ✔ Pressure the provincial government for **increased funding and reduced fees**

Campus Community:
- ✔ Engage the UVic community by organizing more **speakers and events** on social justice issues and current affairs
- ✔ **Long term visioning** for SUB services and businesses

Environmental Sustainability:
- ✔ Effectively lobby for **improved public transit** with the WE RIDE campaign, including a strong focus on **late night buses**

I will be a strong voice supporting the needs and diversity of students at UVic and our access to education.

Vote **Mohamed GHILAN**
TeamFAST.ca

REMY HALL
BANG!

I am a third year student in the Recreation and Health Education Program with a Business Minor and currently sit on the UVSS Special Events Committee. When elected, I will follow my slate's triple bottom line ideology.

PEOPLE
- I will improve school spirit and increase support for our Vikes.
- I will work towards the development of a FROSH Week for UVic, and ensure that that the talent showcased at the SUB party is of higher quality and more abundant.

PLANET
- I fully endorse the switching of lighting in the SUB to energy-efficient fluorescent lighting.
- I think that biodegradable containers for all SUB food outlets should be mandatory.
- I support BANG's plan to remove the SUB from the city's power grid by utilizing devices such as solar panels.

PROFIT
- The SUB is in need of an economic reform and is currently running a very large deficit. Energy efficient upgrades and the re-launching Vertigo as a profitable all ages lounge are two steps endorsed by BANG that would begin to combat this deficit.

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment, vote for **Remy Hall** and* **BANG!**

KELSEY HANNAN
BOLD

Going into my 3rd year of Political Science/Economics and disappointed with the approach of the UVSS, I am running as a candidate in order to **B**uild **O**pportunity and **L**essen **D**ivisions.

BOLD Action
- ✔Find real solutions to **late night transit** and **affordable housing.**
- ✔Increase the number of banks that provide ATM's on campus.
- ✔**Avoid a repeat of the SUB strike** by fostering better working relations with SUB staff.
- ✔Renew efforts to create a **universal print card.**
- ✔Continue with strong action on **sustainability.**
- ✔Post every UVSS budget online.

BOLD Perspective

•ELECTION PLATFORMS• DIRECTORS AT LARGE

✔Reform UVSS's electoral policy on slates to ensure **fair and open elections.**

✔Make the UVSS more democratic by reorganizing board makeup to include Faculty representation.

✔**Challenge the status quo,** e.g., should we be buying pizza for only board members every meeting?

✔Work to make the SUB more welcoming to students.

BOLD Vision for a Vibrant Campus

✔Spend your student fees better - shift money towards **underfunded Clubs and Course Unions.**

✔Rebrand, redesign and rejuvenate Felicita's.

✔Expand the number of SUB parties and all age's events.

✔Invite more prominent speakers to campus.

Be Bold. Vote **BOLD.**
Vote **Kelsey Hannan.**

DYLAN HARDIE
Independent

You may recognize me as a classmate, as the security supervisor at Felicitas, or as another face around campus. I have been a student at Uvic for 4 years and I am asking to be reelected as an independent Director-at-Large.

I will represent the voices of students, independent from slate politics. Our student society can have an impact on major issues on and beyond our campus, as long as competent and organized individuals are elected to the board. My personal goals are:

- To continue making more events happen on campus.
- For Vertigo to host big shows on a regular basis.
- To continue to be a voice of reason at UVSS Board meetings and to continue to effect change in the way things are run.
- To campaign **without** *harassing students with excessive fliers,* **without** *wasting your time speaking in your classrooms,* and **without** *writing my name all over your chalkboards.*

As a past *Director-at-Large and Executive Director* at North Island College Students' Association, and as a *Director-at-Large* at the UVSS, I know the UVSS can do better than it has this past year.

I ask for your vote.

DON'T FORGET YOUR STUDENT ID!

GAVIN HOWIE
TeamFAST

As a dedicated upper-level English and Creative Writing student involved at the community level, coaching soccer, tutoring, holding positions on UVic's Libraries Student Advisory Council and the Co-Op Student Advisory Board, and working with World University Service of Canada, I have the necessary experience to represent you on the UVSS Board of Directors with ***Team For A Sustainable Tomorrow***.

Students today are called to choose to be informed – not just entertained; therefore I commit to maintaining keen awareness surrounding issues that are important to students in today's world. Examples of issues I intend to engage with are:

Affordable Education

✔ Stand in solidarity with First Nations Peoples on issues that hinder their accessibility to education by pressuring our governments to remove the cap on **native student funding**

Environmental Sustainability

✔ Increase **campus community garden space**

✔ Research feasibility **of in-house compost collection**

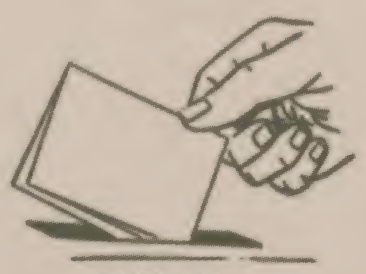
Campus Community

✔ Provide support for non-union student workers and shed light on the **pay-gaps** on campus

✔ Create **transparency surrounding campus corporate sponsorship**

My candidacy for this position comes from the heart; I am passionate about the issues of **sustainability, community, and human rights** and pledge to do my best as your representative.

Vote Gavin HOWIE
TeamFAST.ca



VOTE

EVERY
VOTE COUNTS
&
EVERY
VOTE MAKES A DIFFERENCE

JACOB HUANG
BANG!

As a third year Business student, I have developed the skills necessary to be an excellent voice on the UVSS Board. Through my involvement as a Residence Advisor as well as a Cohort Representative for the Commerce Students' Society, I have been able to develop a broader understanding of students' needs. I would like to apply my leadership capabilities as a Director-at-Large and I believe that a "3P" approach will be most effective way to do this.

When elected I will:

PEOPLE
- Work on building a stronger relationship with ResLife in order to provide joint ResLife/UVSS events for underage students
- Organize better FROSH activities during September to increase student involvement

PLANET
- Invest in biodegradable packaging and better composting facilities in the SUB
- Decrease the amount of paper consumption in the SUB

PROFIT
- Increase the number of events in Vertigo and utilize the space as an exciting, all-ages facility

My experience includes:
- Cohort Representative for the Commerce Students' Society
- Social Director for the Commerce Students' Society
- Residence Advisor
- Intramural League Manager for the Ian Stuart Complex

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment, vote for **Jacob Huang** and* **BANG!**

BEKKI LAYCOCK
TeamFAST

I am a third year Visual Arts and Environmental Studies student and I feel prepared to take on the challenge and responsibility of a Director at Large with ***Team For A Sustainable Tomorrow***. I am excited to have the support of a strong and experienced team that brings together a diverse cross section of faculties and backgrounds in the pursuit of a representative Students' Society. As a Visual Arts student running, I will represent the discipline within the UVSS and offer a fresh perspective.

I have been active in the Environmental Studies Student Association and the Visual Arts Student Association. I would like to take the next step to Director at Large and work toward:

Affordable Education

✔ Keep up the fight to restore funding cuts and bring the cost of university back down

Campus Community

✔ Encourage an interdisciplinary community with events that involve the different faculties within Fine Arts and other departments

✔ Ensure the SUB is used to its fullest potential

Sustainability

✔ Increase recycling facilities in classrooms and composting receptacles around campus

✔ Campaign for the use of local and organic food in the cafeterias around campus

✔ Phase out bottled water

Vote **Bekki LAYCOCK**
TeamFAST.ca

ALI LEE
BANG!

I believe the UVSS should be about connecting every area of campus together to work towards common goals and establish a sense of school spirit and pride. As a third year biochemistry major and devoted member of the Field Hockey ... ed ... to establish ... athletic experiences ... varsity and the Canadian national program have given me the strength, work ethic and creativity to be an influential Director-at-Large. I will use a "3P" approach to achieve my goals:

NO LONGER RUNNING

PEOPLE:
- Intercalating the Vikes school spirit campus wide and by introducing a FROSH week and Blue & Gold Days.

PLANET:
- Upgrade the Student Union Building to reduce energy consumption

PROFIT:
- Convert SUBtext into an organized and inventoried e-business, creating an opportunity for a new student operated business

As current varsity council president, four year captain of the 2008 National Championship Field Hockey team and active member in the local community, I feel I can do a bang up job at making a difference. So, remember:

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment, vote for **Ali Lee** and* **BANG!**

DON'T FORGET YOUR STUDENT ID!

MIKE MASON
Independent

I am your knight in shining armor – vote for me and I will save the day. The first problem I want to tackle is late night transportation to and from downtown. Buses shutdown early, and previous attempts to change this have proven futile. My plan is to try and use those white UVic vans that we see on campus as shuttles. It is time we start solving our own problems instead of getting others to. If elected, this is the attitude I will have towards every task.

ALL CANDIDATES FORUMS

Candidates for the UVSS Board of Directors, Senate & BoG will be outlining their platforms and answering any questions you might have.

MONDAY FEB 23
All Candidates Forum #1
ECS C125
(1:00PM)

THURSDAY FEB 26
All Candidates Forum #2
Cinecenta
(11:00AM)

MONDAY MAR 2
Chairperson Debate
Cinecenta
(1:00PM)

•ELECTION PLATFORMS• DIRECTORS AT LARGE

BRODIE METCALFE
TeamFAST

As a 4th year Women's Studies major and Philosophy minor, I have developed a special interest in building inclusive community at UVic. I am running with ***Team For A Sustainable Tomorrow*** because I want to be a part of the exciting direction UVic is moving with sustainability, transit, and campus community.

Over the last two years I have shown my commitment to campus community through:

- ✔ Active involvement with UVic Pride and TransAction
- ✔ Two terms on the Board of Directors as a Director at Large and Pride Representative

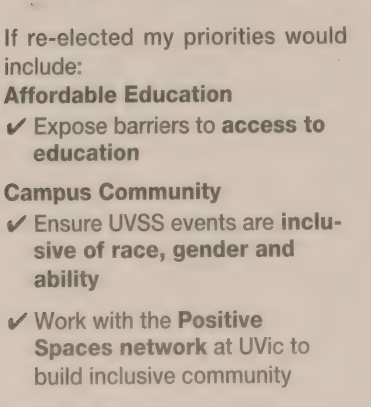
If re-elected my priorities would include:

Affordable Education
- ✔ Expose barriers to **access to education**

Campus Community
- ✔ Ensure UVSS events are **inclusive of race, gender and ability**
- ✔ Work with the **Positive Spaces network** at UVic to build inclusive community
- ✔ **Boost involvement** in advocacy groups
- ✔ Empower students to take on **anti-racism, anti-homophobia and anti-sexism initiatives** through events, forums, and awareness-raising
- ✔ Work with advocacy groups and UVic to bring to light discrimination and inequalities on campus

Environmental Sustainability
- ✔ **Reduce the amount of waste and disposables** on campus
- ✔ Promote the value of public water and **increase the number of campus water fountains**

Vote Brodie METCALFE
TeamFAST.ca



RAJPREET SALL
BANG!

As a History and Political Science double major, I've spent my time at UVic gaining knowledge inside and outside the classroom; I want to apply all that I've learned into being a Director-at-Large.

If elected I will:

PEOPLE
- Create increased school spirit through joint UVSS/Vikes events
- Institute an expansion of the Weeks of Welcome

PLANET
- Implement motion sensor lighting/heating in the SUB
- Use of biodegradable containers by all food distributors in the SUB

PROFIT
- Reform Vertigo into a fun and exciting all-ages venue that showcases local talent
- Reform the SUBtext into an online business for ease of use and use the SUBtext's space for alternate purposes

I have the following experience:
- Resident Advisor for UVic Housing, Food and Conference Services
- UVic Model UN Club Member
- Member of Grad Council

The knowledge and skills I gained as an RA are irreplaceable. Witnessing the difference an active student body can have has given me an appreciation for the difference passion and skill can make when applied together; allow me to put this into practice for other students to enjoy.

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment,* vote for ***Rajpreet Sall*** *and* **BANG!**

MEGHAN SHANNON
BANG!

I am a third year Social Sciences student pursuing a Bachelor of Science in Economics and Mathematics. As a student of aboriginal descent, I believe in a Board that truly represents the diversity of UVic. I am strong willed, highly motivated and see the UVSS as an opportunity to assist others and create change.

If elected I will focus on a "3P" approach:

PEOPLE
- Plan innovative and exciting new events to increase student participation in the UVSS
- Implement a late-night shuttle service to offset the deficiencies of the public transit system

PLANET
- Retrofit the SUB with much needed energy saving technologies

PROFIT
- Turn Vertigo into an all-ages student lounge with entertaining activities and food services

My experience includes:
- Volunteering for mentoring programs, tutoring, exchange programs, career fairs, and conferences.
- Model UN Club Member in 2006.
- Extra-curricular activities including violin, flute, guitar, surfing, soccer, snowboarding, and ballet
- Financial experience through working at the Royal Bank of Canada

My energetic nature, focused responsibility, and balanced view of life ensure that I will be the best choice for a Director-at-Large position.

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment, vote for **Meghan Shannon** and **BANG!***

LYNDEN SHERMAN
TeamFAST

I am a 3rd year political science and economics student running with ***Team For A Sustainable Tomorrow***. I am interested in improving **access to a high-quality education**, strengthening **campus community**, and promoting **environmental sustainability**. To achieve these broader goals, I believe that financial responsibility and the profitability of our SUB businesses is crucial. In accordance with these objectives, I will take the following measures:

Affordable Education
- ✔ Fight textbook costs while providing **greater access to course reserves**
- ✔ Work with UVic to **reduce wait times at student advising**

Campus Community
- ✔ Work with students and staff to **improve SUB businesses and events**
- ✔ Make UVic a hub of higher learning by bringing **meaningful debate to campus**
- ✔ Lobby for the establishment of a multi-use village centre on campus

Sustainability
- ✔ Promote the creation of an urban **agricultural centre** on campus
- ✔ Expand space and **support for the UVic SPOKES** program

Apart from my involvement in the UVic Greens and UVic Fairvote, I enjoy outdoor adventuring, good conversation, and the company of good friends. I would like to make the campus community a better place for all of us!

Vote Lynden SHERMAN
TeamFAST.ca
lsherman@uvic.ca

VOTE!
DON'T FORGET TO BRING YOUR STUDENT ID!

GINO SHIFRIN
TeamFAST

I am excited to run with ***Team For A Sustainable Tomorrow***. As a 3rd year Political Science and Anthropology student, I hope for the opportunity to serve and represent UVic students as I have felt the contributions and hard work of the previous Directors.

My substantial campus experience includes being:

- ✔ Active in the Jewish Student's Association and Israel on Campus
- ✔ A Student Representative on the Social Science Curriculum Committee and the Search Committee for Dean of Social Sciences
- ✔ A Student Aide at UVSS Board of Directors meetings

As your representative, I am dedicated to:

Affordable Education:
- ✔ Work with UVic to reduce costs of textbooks and coursepacks
- ✔ Ensure that newly elected provincial government representatives will adequately fund UVic and reduce tuition fees

Campus Community:
- ✔ Foster relationships by organizing joint events with clubs, course unions and advocacy groups

Sustainability
- ✔ Promote carpooling and lobby for better public transit, especially late night buses
- ✔ Increase local food and reduce waste at UVic and in the SUB

As part of ***Team FAST***, I will work hard to reflect the diversity and richness of UVic and ensure that important student issues are addressed.

Vote Gino SHIFRIN
TeamFAST.ca

LEAH STAPLES
TeamFAST.ca

I am a fourth year Sociology major, Women's Studies minor, with a focus on social justice. Throughout my time at UVic, I have been interested in community sustainability. I am running with ***Team For A Sustainable Tomorrow*** because I am looking for the opportunity to address the growing lack of safety on campus. If elected, I will work toward a friendly, safe and inclusive campus environment, accessible for all students.

I have been committed to building community through:
- ✔ Conducting research on bus safety commuting to UVic
- ✔ Anti-racist feminist efforts to challenge intolerance on campus

I will work towards:

Affordable Education
- ✔ Ensure barriers to **participation and inequities on campus are addressed**

Campus Community and Safety
- ✔ **Better lighting** at bus stops and paths
- ✔ Raise awareness about unsafe areas on campus
- ✔ Work with the University and the Anti Violence Project to **increase campus safety**
- ✔ Work with UVic's Positive Spaces network to **create inclusive community**
- ✔ Work with advocacy groups to raise awareness about inequalities on campus

Environmental Sustainability
- ✔ Address barriers to public water and **increase water fountains on campus**
- ✔ Hold UVic **accountable to its Sustainability Policy and Action Plan**

Vote Leah STAPLES
TeamFAST.ca

ERIN STEAD
BANG!

I am a first year student pre-admitted to the BCom Program. After years of community involvement, I aspire to execute my leadership experience as Director At-Large for UVSS. As a member of BANG, I will execute the following goals as outlined in our platform with the "3P" approach:

PEOPLE
- Strengthen communication between all students, regardless of faculty or age
- Organize social events which first year students under 19 can attend

PLANET
- Retrofit the SUB by implementing biodegradable containers and energy-efficient light bulbs

PROFIT
- Reform Vertigo as an all-ages, open-mic retreat
- Better promote Cinecenta to increase revenues and provide more all-ages events

My experience includes:
- Associate Talent Management Director for the Commerce Students' Society Charity Fashion Show
- Pre-Admit Representative of the Commerce Students' Society
- Marketing Team for the Commerce Students' Society
- Facilitator for the Rainbows

Counselling Program

- Student ambassador for Kids Help Phone

My experience qualifies me as an excellent student representative. Bringing together UVic's students regardless of their age is my priority, and that is why I am ideal candidate for Director-at-Large.

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment, vote for **Erin Stead and BANG!***

NATHAN WARNER
BOLD

Bringing a new voice into the board brings new ideas and perspectives. Going into my 3rd of a biology degree I am running for Director at Large so I can bring **strong action** and **genuine results** for the students of UVic by **B**uilding **O**pportunity and **L**essening **D**ivisions.

BOLD Action

- ✔ Find real solutions to late night transit that work for everyone.
- ✔ Create results to student housing on campus.
- ✔ Post every UVSS budget online for accountability.
- ✔ Continue with strong action on the environment and sustainability.
- ✔ Work to create a universal print card for campus.
- ✔ Avoid another SUB strike by creating strong, working relations with SUB staff.
- ✔ Work to bring more ATM's on campus from more banks.

BOLD Perspective

- ✔ Include representation from all faculties on the UVSS board.
- ✔ Make the SUB a welcoming place for all students.
- ✔ Reform UVSS's electoral policy regarding slates to ensure fair opportunity for everyone.

BOLD Vision for a Vibrant Campus

- ✔ Reform spending to provide more money to underfunded clubs and course unions.
- ✔ Bring prominent speakers and performers to campus.
- ✔ Have more SUB parties and all age's events.

Be BOLD. Vote **Bold.**
Vote **Nathan Warner.**

PLEASE Don't forget your Student ID

All Candidates Forums

MON FEB 23	THURS FEB 26	MON MAR 2
All Candidates Forum #1	All Candidates Forum #2	Chairperson Debate
ECS C125	Cinecenta	Cinecenta
(1:00PM)	(11:00AM)	(1:00PM)

POLLING STATIONS

WEDNESDAY MARCH 4		THURSDAY MARCH 5		FRIDAY MARCH 6	
Clearihue	9:00am - 8:00pm	Clearihue	9:00am - 8:00pm	Clearihue	9:00am - 4:00pm
David Strong	9:00am - 4:00pm	Commons	5:00pm - 7:00pm	Cornett	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Eng. Lab Wing	1:00pm - 4:00pm	Cornett	1:00pm - 4:00pm	David Strong	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Fine Arts	9:00am - 12:00pm	ECS	9:00am - 4:00pm	ECS	9:00am - 4:00pm
Library	9:00am - 8:00pm	Elliott	9:00am - 12:00pm	Elliott	9:00am - 12:00pm
MacLaurin	9:00am - 4:00pm	Fine Arts	1:00pm - 4:00pm	ELW	1:00pm - 4:00pm
McKinnon	1:00pm - 4:00pm	Fraser	1:00pm - 4:00pm	HSD	1:00pm - 4:00pm
SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm	SSM	1:00pm - 4:00pm	Library	9:00am - 4:00pm
University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm	Library	9:00am - 8:00pm	SSM	11:00am - 3:00pm
Wright Centre	1:00pm - 4:00pm	MacLaurin	9:00am - 4:00pm	SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm
		SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm	University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm
		University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm		

"IF DEMOCRACY IS THE FLOWER... THEN APATHY IS THE WEED."

VOTE

MARCH 4TH TO THE 6TH

•2009 REFERENDUM QUESTIONS•

ADVOCACY

Are you in favour of a fee increase of $1.50 to go towards UVic Pride, $1.50 towards Students of Colour Collective (SOCC), $1.00 to go towards the Native Students' Union, and $.55 towards the Women's Centre for a total of a $4.55 funding increase per semester for the advocacy groups listed?

YES SIDE

LUAM KIDANE

Under the terms of advocacy and action the Native Students' Union (NSU), Students of Colour Collective (SOCC), Women's Centre and UVic Pride create and expand academic, social and political spaces for marginalized persons on campus. We work to empower *all people* by organizing and supporting events, providing resources and support to individuals and groups, and by actively working against oppression based on, among other things, race, gender, class, nationality and sexual orientation.

We believe that activism comes in many forms: music, writing, rallies, popular media, workshops and awareness campaigns. Through these creative means we can educate the community and ourselves so that we can engage in informed ways with issues that affect our lives. The NSU, UVic Pride, Women's Centre and SOCC are growing every year and the participation at all of our events is increasing. However with this increase in participation comes an unavoidable increase in cost to fulfill our mandates. As a result of this we are proposing a fee increase, $4.55 per semester, which would help us meet our growing memberships needs while at the same time bringing each advocacy group in this question to an equal level of funding.

The fiscal gains that the referendum opportunity poses for the four advocacy groups would not only provide us with stability, but would allow us to expand our services. With the increased funding the four advocacy groups would have an opportunity to embark on community and university based research projects, increase the number of publications we print, hold more frequent in-depth workshops and lecture series for the university community and the Victoria community at large, and hire coordinators to help extend our office hours, increasing our capacity to support our constituency more efficiently and consistently for years to come. Finally, the fiscal gain would allow us to continue to provide a safe and inclusive space for the people who seek our services.

The power to act, however, does not work alone, which is why the four advocacy groups, SOCC, NSU, Women's Centre and UVic Pride are working together on this. In order to realize our goals we need the flexibility, opportunity, and stability that comes with monetary gain. By supporting our referendum, you are standing in solidarity with our fight for equality. You have the power to shape the future of this university; let us choose collective betterment over personal gain.

ACCESS UVIC FUNDING

Do you support an increase in student fees beginning September 2009 of $1.00 per part-time student and $2.00 per full-time student per semester to be directed to Access UVic! for the purpose of increasing awareness, inclusion and accessibility for all people with disabilities on campus and in society?

YES SIDE

KYLA BERRY

Your ballot has a question that asks if students are in favour of more funding to "Access UVic!" the organization for students with disabilities at the University of Victoria.

Access is the voice of the disability movement on campus. Financial support from the UVSS enabled us to begin to organize during the years 2003 and 2004. In 2005 students voted 80% YES to our first request for direct support.

Thanks to the generosity of our fellow students we have been able to organize effectively, begin to demonstrate leadership on campus and begin the strong long term initiatives needed to promote understanding and acceptance.

Our goal now is to continue to grow and to ensure the stability of our Advocacy Centre and the long term sustainability of our organization. With the increase we respectfully request, you will empower us to:

- Increase our capacity to adequately advocate for students with disabilities;
- Ensure that we can afford appropriate disability supports for our staff;
- Reduce our reliance on the volunteer contribution of one dedicated leader;
- Provide continuity during our transition to a new, paid coordinator;
- Promote greater understanding and discussion of disability issues;
- Broaden awareness of the barriers faced by students with disabilities;
- Create leaders for the future of the disability movement in Canada.

In September, Access UVic tried an unprecedented outreach exercise. Members of Access interacted with one in every five students on campus during the first ten days of classes. We collected over 3000 signatures in favour of including our funding request on the student ballot. We were truly overwhelmed and grateful for the warm encouragement we received from our fellow students.

People with disabilities are the most recent group to seek equal opportunity to post secondary education. Like most post secondary institutions, the University of Victoria was designed without taking the needs of disabled people into account. In everyday life on campus we continue to struggle for access and accommodation. Too often, disabled students leave this campus in exhaustion and despair.

One dollar from each part time student and two dollars from each full time student is a small amount that can make a big difference. While funding alone will not eliminate the challenges faced by disabled students, it will be a step in the right direction, and one we deeply appreciate.

Vote "YES" to Access.

INFLATION

Do you agree to increase the UVSS Membership Fees annually by the rate of inflation according to the Canadian Consumer Price Index?

NO SIDE

DAVID J. A. FOSTER

I oppose the referendum question to increase UVSS fees annually by the rate of inflation, and I am representing the "no" side in this referendum. I and other students do not feel this fee increase is in the best interests of UVic students for the following reasons:

- While student fees would begin to increase at the rate of inflation immediately, wages and income assistance levels are not tied to inflation, and neither the provincial or federal governments have any plans to do so.
- If this referendum question passes, UVSS fees will increase automatically every year--by a greater or smaller amount, depending on the rate of inflation. The increase will be automatic, without the need for students' approval. Currently the UVSS Board needs to gain approval by referendum to increase student fees at all. This creates a check to ensure regular accountability every time the UVSS moves out of its operating budget. Without this check in place, students have less control over how the UVSS Board spends the money from student fees. Students should be able to decide whether they want their society to increase fees or conserve money.
- We have entered an economic crisis in which everyone, including students, have less capital to meet all their needs. In fact, in economic crises it is the lower-income brackets who are usually hit hardest. Students working outside the SUB are also earning less. Increasing their UVSS fees puts these students at a disadvantage.
- Some of the services available in the SUB, such as dental and chiropractic, would be considered luxuries by students from economically-deprived backgrounds. The UVSS could save money by allowing these students to opt out of services they can't afford and don't use.
- The UVSS Board has repeatedly refused to conduct a cost-benefit analysis of our membership in the CFS. Last year the UVic Grad Students' Society found they were able to significantly reduce costs by defederating from CFS. The UVSS Board now wants to increase student fees without even considering that we might, like the GSS, be better off financially as an independent student society.
- Last fall, during the SUB workers' strike, the UVSS budget was reviewed by independent accountants, who concluded there were sufficient financial resources available to raise SUB workers' wages without increasing student fees.

For these and other reasons, I feel the referendum proposal to increase UVSS fees annually is unfair, undemocratic and unnecessary.

YES SIDE

CAITLIN MEGGS

For less than the cost of a slice of pizza each year, you can help support the diversity of the UVic campus through an annual increase to the UVSS membership fees by the rate of inflation. Whether you are working with an advocacy group to fight inequality, organizing a club fundraiser, or planning a pub crawl for your course union, this increase will provide for more opportunities to engage in campus life. Given past increases to CPI, we anticipate that the annual increase will be between $2.30 to $2.80 per full-time student.
This fee covers many areas of student life on campus. Over the years students have voted to increase this fee to include more and more groups. The current $68 fee funds

- the Women's Centre
- Native Students' Union
- UVic Pride
- Students of Colour Collective
- ACCESS UVic!
- Clubs
- Course Unions
- Food Bank
- Ombudsperson
- Anti-Violence Project
- CFUV 101.9FM
- The Martlet
- VIPIRG
- UVSP
- Day Care Assistance Fund
- WUSC
- Daniel Jacobs Bursary
- International Student Award
- UVSS operating and building funds.

Costs for all these groups increase every year, but the opportunities to raise more funds are limited. A yearly increase by the rate of inflation will ensure long-term stability for all groups on campus. It will ensure, for example, that the Anti-Violence Project can continue to provide awareness and support around sexualized violence, that WUSC can continue to sponsor refugees to study at UVic, and that the Food Bank is adequately stocked.
This modest yearly increase will go a long way in supporting the groups that make this campus exciting and meaningful. Whether you take advantage of all this campus has to offer, or you simply read the Martlet each week and enjoy the occasional beer at Felicita's, it's important that as students we pool our resources to ensure a vibrant campus for everyone.
This referendum question is one of three that we're asking you to consider. It's important that we support groups' requests for increased funding so they can implement new services immediately. But by supporting this referendum, you can support all the student groups on campus for years to come, ensuring that all groups have long-term stability.
We urge you to vote YES for all three referenda questions. Let's come together to ensure long-term stability for all student groups and an immediate increase in funding to the groups that need it the most right now.

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • SENATE

Senate is one of the two major governing bodies of the University. It is concerned with academic governance matters. It determines enrollment and admissions, approves new programs, grants degrees, makes rules for the management of the Library, recommends awards and scholarships to the Board and so on. It meets on the first Friday of every month from October to May at 3:30 p.m. In addition, it has a number of committees on which all senators serve. Student senators should serve on at least one Senate committee. There are 16 student senators.

Platforms for Students to be elected to the Senate 2009 - 2010

NADIM ADATIA

As a Political Science and Philosophy double-major I have been involved in the course unions for both departments. My experiences there, coupled with my work in my band, Rock Bottom and my time with the Student Transition Center gives me the perspective necessary to represent students in the Senate. I plan to use a "3P" approach to achieve this.

PEOPLE:

- Work to design programs to be more effective at recruiting local students
- Lobby for more work/study opportunities within individual departments to enhance the learning experience

PLANET:

- Advocate for services to decrease paper usage campus wide
- Support the proliferation of energy saving measures on campus to reduce operational costs

PROFIT:

- Lobby to improve bursary and scholarship funding
- Encourage conscientious spending and campus development

I am a charismatic and confident leader who wishes to apply those traits to represent students in this university.

If you want a Bold, Awesome, New Government,

vote for Nadim Adatia and BANG.

ACCLAIMED

ABUDI AWAYSHEH

As a Student Senator I intend on focusing on the following issues:

1 – Senate approval for a change in designation of the Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) into a Juris Doctor (J.D.). Many Canadian Law Schools have already changed their degree name, as they have recognized the importance of such a change upon their graduates. UVic Law Students should benefit in a similar manner.

2 – Increasing the number of full time professors teaching courses. Too many courses are being taught by either seasonal instructors or graduate students with little or no oversight from full time faculty. University courses should be taught by full time university professors. The experience and knowledge a full time professor has, has a profound impact on the way students learn and experience the relevant subject matter.

3 – Increasing the number of academic councillors. Academic councillors play a pivotal role in assisting students with planning and choosing their coursework. Increasing the number of academic councillors available would have a significant impact on the quality of education that students receive form the university. It would decrease long waiting periods, and increase the personal interaction students receive from the councillors.

JAMES COCCOLA

The University of Victoria, is widely recognized as one of the best universities in Canada. Even with our impressive record, UVic is continually transforming itself. All students must come together to ensure that the change is sustainable and has students in mind. If elected, I follow a "3P" approach.

PEOPLE

- Work to develop closer Student – Faculty relationships in all departments
- Work to include more stakeholders in discussions on planning

PLANET

- Ensure that sustainable governance and academics are considered in all decisions

PROFIT

- Work to increase UVic bursaries and scholarships for students
- Fight to decrease current fees and be an advocate against new ones.

As a 4th year Political Science and Geography student my experience at UVic includes:

- Executive member for Undergraduate Politics Society
- Chair of the Social Planning Committee for the Society of Geography Students
- Member of the Fundraising Committee for Model United Nations
- Member of the UVic Curling club

As a member of the Senate I will be a strong student voice, keeping the UVic community moving in a positive direction for the coming year.

Hola! Vote Coccola!

If you want a Bold, Awesome, New Government,

vote for James Coccola and BANG.

JEN COMER

The University of Victoria is at a crossroads, our globe is at a tipping point, and we need young leaders who will help guide our university in a sustainable direction. Jen Comer is one of those people. She is a fourth-year Honours Geography student, looking forward to a future in community development and municipal politics. Jen is the student liaison to the faculty for the Society of Geography Students (SOGS), and is a Sustainability Outreach Assistant in the Office of Campus Planning and Sustainability. Through a "3P" platform Jen will use her experience to represent students effectively in the Senate.

People:

- Find innovative measures to attract new students
- Uphold a high academic standard to create a challenging and dynamic study environment for current students

Planet:

- Work to achieve a carbon neutral campus by 2012
- Advocate for integrated resource technologies, reduction of waste and energy demands and support for local green initiatives

Profit:

- Lobby for increases to the bursary and scholarship programs

UVIC needs inspiring young leaders to influence and shape the policies of the university.

If you want a Bold, Awesome, New Government,

vote Jen Comer and BANG.

EXERCISE YOUR DEMOCRATIC RIGHT!

DAVID FOSTER

Every Student Matters

My vision for UVic is a socially inclusive, creative, diverse environment in which students with special needs and students from underprivileged backgrounds are able to explore their full potential.

I believe higher education should work to break down social and economic barriers--not reinforce them.

Social Responsibility: We must ensure that students in extreme financial need are not written out of the university budget. All grants and scholarships should take financial need into account.

Accessibility: Our university must be designed to work for people with diverse needs and abilities. UVic can become a leader in flexible education which accommodates a variety of learning styles.

Toward an Equitable Future: People from economically deprived backgrounds should not be priced out of higher education! We should investigate options such as interest-free loans and sliding-scale tuition fees, which would vary according to what students could afford.

Britain has successfully adopted a similar system, where tuition fees are waived for students from families with incomes of under $45,000.

Democracy and Accountability: As your representative on the Senate, I will be a non-partisan voice for all students. I will listen to your needs and concerns, and advocate for you at the UVic governance level.

NATHAN FREIDMAN

The problems facing a musician can be considered effective metaphors for those occurring in the real-life operations of any organisation. As a performer in many ensembles, I have the capacity to work constructively with others in order to create a coherent and ultimately rewarding final product. As a composer, I rely on both logical and creative methods of problem-solving for my craft. As a member of the Senate, I would draw upon these skills and work with the students, faculty and members of the administration that comprise the Senate and its committees in order to make decisions in the best interests of the Faculty of Fine Arts, the students of UVic, and the university as a whole.

MOHAMED GHILAN

As a student on the campus of the University of Victoria, I have witnessed changes in policies and development that affect students. We must ensure that the interests and academic priorities of students are at the forefront of UVic planning and governance.

As a committed member of Senate, I will work towards enriching the quality of our education by providing a strong student voice advocating for:

- Putting the Priorities of Students First in campus expansion
- Meeting the Academic Needs of Students in the development of courses
- Environmentally Sustainable Practices and Policies
- Equitable policies that reflect the needs of the Diversity of Students on campus
- Services and representation for International Students

My years of experience with governance includes:

- 1 year President of the UVic Pre-Med Society
- 1 year on the Outreach Committee of the UVic Muslim Students' Association
- 1 year Executive Secretary of Vancouver Offshore Schools Group
- 3 years Finance and Online Marketing Manager with Universal Ford Lincoln in Calgary

I will be a strong voice for policies that support the needs of the diversity of students at UVic and their access to education.

VOTE OUT LOUD

• ELECTION PLATFORMS • SENATE

VERONICA HARRISON

I am a third year student studying Political Science and Psychology. I have served one term as a Student Senator and two years as a director-at-large on the University of Victoria Students' Society. With this experience I have learnt how to create policy, draft motions and motivate for change on a wide range of topics. My time spent on Senate has taught me how important a student voice can be in university decision making.

My experience:

- Worked on reforming and developing student society policy
- Campaigned for more accessible and affordable textbooks
- Participated on many student society committees
- Sat on the Teaching and Learning committee for Senate where I helped draft policy on plagiarism detection
- Helped draft UVic's Sustainability Policy

I will advocate for:

- An increased number of text books on reserve
- Continuing sustainable development on campus
- Expanded co-op programs with less fees
- More work study positions and recognition for volunteer work
- Improved financial aid to make university more accessible to all students

I will provide a strong student voice in the development of UVic and work to keep student priorities and interests a main focus in university decision making.

Vote Veronica Harrison for Senate.

GAVIN HOWIE

The most important issues for me during this election are the adoption of sustainable practices in the face of an economic recession and environmental crisis; and the assurance of accessible education for potential students. As a student of English Honours and Creative Writing at the University of Victoria, I am an expert in applying creativity to achieve excellence in problem solving.

As a member of Senate, my intent is to contribute to a responsible governing body at the University, by always being available to promote YOUR CONCERNS.

HEATHER MCKENZIE

As an Environmental Studies and Biology student, I feel a natural pull towards sustainability on campus. The University is always undergoing change, and is currently in the process of creating an overarching university sustainability policy. I would like to ensure students have a voice in these changes and that the University is held accountable.

Beyond this policy, there are many pressing issues where students should have a voice. As your student senator, I will work for a better educational experience by advocating for:

- reduced textbook and coursepack prices
- smaller class sizes
- more sustainable lab facilities
- community based research opportunities
- more course options for fleeting faculties
- transparency of academic decision-making

I believe I hold the experience necessary to bring a strong student voice to the university Senate. Over the last three years I have:

- participated in Senate committees and board meetings
- been a dedicated Director at Large with the UVic Student Society
- held a Director position with the UVic Sustainability Project for two years

A strong student voice is necessary to ensure our needs and interests are at the forefront of the University's decisions. I will work hard to provide that voice!

BRODIE METCALFE

I am a 4th year student majoring in Women's Studies. Through my studies and the various organizations I have been involved with over the last two years, I have done advocacy work around gender, sexuality, and race issues. My goals have been to encourage the university to pay attention to the diversity of students and their experiences when making structural and institutional decisions.

It appears we are seeing some real changes around campus in areas of sustainability, athletics, and education. I want to see UVic maintain its quality of education, at the same time, making sure that its directions are considerate of inclusion and equity.

As Student Senator I will do the following:

Provide students with a voice for issues that concern them.

Work towards expanding the scope of education within departments

Hold UVic accountable to its Sustainability Policy.

Liaise between students and faculty to let decision makers know what students want to see on their campus

During my two years at UVic I've had the opportunity to advocate on a number of issues around gender, race, student debt, poverty, inclusion and diversity. I would like the opportunity to continue in this direction at the senate level. Thanks.

VIK NAMASIVAYAM

This year my election platform revolves around students who work, who need financial assistance and who fend for themselves. I feel that the concept of "University" has to integrate the lives of its students who are paying for its services into its policies– to a level of course. That is to say, that academic concession should be lenient toward those who are funding themselves, and or working. Opportunities in a student's career should not be jeopardised by University protocol but rather embraced. Furthermore there should be a limit to what is tolerable for increased tuition fees and greater ease on students to explore academic subjects outside of their own faculty.

RAJPREET SALL

UVic has an incredibly beautiful campus which must be preserved and protected for future generations of students. A lack of funds should not inhibit or prohibit students enrolled in, or wishing to enrol, in university. Students should not feel segregated from the upper-echelons of the university and its decisions. If elected I will:

PEOPLE

- Fight for transparency in university policies and provide the decision-making process to students

PLANET

- Work for decreased paper consumption
- Lobby for the use of energy efficient lightbulbs and motion sensor lighting and heating in classrooms across campus

PROFIT

- Fight for decreased Co-op fees
- Push for further financial aid for students, and ensure class sizes are conducive to the best learning environment possible

My experience includes:

- Resident Advisor for UVic Housing, Food & Conference Services
- UVic Model UN Club
- Executive member of Student Council
- Member of Grad Council

If elected, I will give all that I can to ensure that I am able to fulfill all my promises and provide the students of UVic with a competent and forthcoming Senator.

*If you want a **b**old, **a**wesome, **n**ew **g**overnment,*

vote Rajpreet Sall and BANG!

MEGHAN SHANNON

To represent the student body, an individual must be strong willed and highly motivated. I see the senate as a means of assisting others and as a personal challenge. I have been an active student in my time on campus, participating in numerous mentoring and tutoring programs, as well as being active in conferences and student exchanges. I hope to use these experiences to be an effective student senator. If elected I will focus on a "3P" approach.

PEOPLE:

- Maintain a high academic standards to ensure UVIC students earn a valuable degree
- Encourage aggressive recruitment strategies to maintain a diverse student population

PLANET:

- Encourage the university to continue their policies with regard to sustainable development
- Lobby the university to upgrade all buildings on campus to meet LEED certification

PROFIT:

- Increase publicity and awareness for alternative forms of funding to students
- Lobby for increased student aid and bursaries

My energetic nature, focused responsibility, and balanced view of life ensure that I will be the best choice for senate as a representative of the students. I will be your voice.

*If you want a **b**old, **a**wesome, **n**ew government,*

***vote Meghan Shannon** and* **BANG!**

GINO SHIFRIN

I am 3rd year student doing a double major in Political Science and Anthropology. If elected as a Social Sciences representative to senate I will advocate strongly on behalf of students on important issues such as access to affordable course materials and smaller class sizes.

Over the past year I have been active in the Social Sciences' department by holding elected positions on the UVic Social Science Curriculum committee and the Search for Dean of the Social Sciences. I also bring my experiences with student clubs such as the Jewish Student Association, Israel on Campus and the UVic Students' Society.

Working in Uvic's music and media library has given me the appreciation of how important it is for students to have accessibility to not only cheaper texts and course packs but to multi media equipment. Being around an academic environment like our library gives a greater appreciation of how important academics are to our students. I look up to the students who work day and night studying in the library while at the same time balancing a social, family life while paying rising tuition fees. Please vote for Gino Shifrin for Senate, to represent these views.

Attention All Students

ELECTIONS TO THE SENATE AND TO THE BOARD OF GOVERNORS

mandated under the University Act

Vote online at:

https://webvote.uvic.ca

Student representation on the University's governing bodies is vital, so please exercise your vote.

WebVote will be the sole method for voting in the elections for the Senate and for the Board of Governors; paper ballots will not be available.

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• ELECTION PLATFORMS • SENATE

TERESA SIMS

As a current Student Senator I have learned the importance of representing the student voice on substantive University issues. I am seeking re-election because I am confident that I have contributed a valuable and thought-provoking perspective to Senate and would like to continue this opportunity for another term.

If elected I will:

PEOPLE

- Advocate for long-term scholarship and bursary initiatives instead of one-time investments.

PLANET

- Incorporate sustainable practices into the revision and implementation of institutional policies
- Implement the final recommendations in the sustainability action plan for campus facilities to ensure compliance with the carbon reduction regulations and LEED building requirements

PROFIT

- Support financial risk management and integrated business planning to combat the effects of the economic recession

My relevant experience includes:

- Student Senator
- Director at Large for the UVSS
- PR and Communications, Vice-President and Finance Minister for the Model UN Club
- Director-at-Large and Director of Finance for the Undergraduate Politics Society
- VP Internal and VP Finance for the Commerce Students' Society

As you can see, my experience exemplifies my dedication to representing students from many faculties.

*If you want a **b**old, **a**wesome, **n**ew **g**overnment,*

vote Teresa Sims and **BANG!**

CURTIS SMITH

The university senate is the decision making body for academic policies at UVIC. As a student senator I could provide a meaningful student voice in university policy writing. My experiences as the president of the Undergraduate Politics Society and Vice President of the Canadian Political Science Students Association give me the skills I need to be an empathetic and enthusiastic student leader. I pledge to bring the concerns of UVIC students to the forefront of university policy making

PEOPLE:

- Encourage creative techniques for recruitment of new students
- Ensure that the academic policies of the university maintain UVIC's reputation as a top rated university

PLANET:

- Encourage the university to continue their policies with regard to sustainable development
- Lobby the university to upgrade all buildings on campus to meet LEED certification

PROFIT:

- Pursue alternative sources of revenue to keep the costs of university development from affecting students
- Lobby for increased student aid and bursaries.

This university needs the guidance and leadership from its students in order to maintain its good standing at a national level. BANG can provide that through creative initiatives and bold ideas.

*If you want a **b**old, **a**wesome, **n**ew government,*

vote Curtis Smith and **BANG.**

ERIN STEAD

My experience and ambition will be a valuable asset as a Student Senator. If elected to the Senate, I will use my skills as a leader and team player to ensure all students' voices are heard and considered. If elected, I will:

PEOPLE

- Strengthen communication between all students, regardless of faculty or age

PLANET

- Work towards reforming UVic's facilities to make them sustainable and eco-friendly

PROFIT

- Raise awareness on how students' fees can be utilized to better our experience at UVic

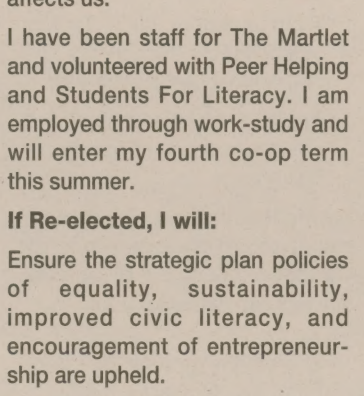
My experience with leadership is derived from:

- Founding and running a high school peer counselling program
- Facilitating events and sessions for a local counselling program for young children
- Representing a local credit union as a student ambassador in the media and at community events
- Acting as a member of the Commerce Marketing Team
- Working as the Associate Talent Management Director for the CSS Charity Fashion Show

My experience as a leader within the community will translate flawlessly as a student advocate on the Senate. I care about developing the bond between students across all faculties.

*If you want a **b**old, **a**wesome, **n**ew **g**overnment,*

vote Erin Stead *and* **BANG!**



ANDREW WADE

My name is Andrew Wade and I am running for re-election as your Fine Arts Student Senator.

My Record:

This year, I have maintained a vocal presence in the senate's monthly meetings. On the Committee for Appeals, I have argued for student rights in disputes with their professors.

My Community:

As a fifth-year student pursuing concurrent degrees in Writing and Theatre, I have volunteered for VASA's 'Sprung' and lived with friends from the Department of Music. Further inside the ring, I've taken courses in the faculties of Business, Education, Humanities, and Social Sciences. I know what affects us.

I have been staff for The Martlet and volunteered with Peer Helping and Students For Literacy. I am employed through work-study and will enter my fourth co-op term this summer.

If Re-elected, I will:

Ensure the strategic plan policies of equality, sustainability, improved civic literacy, and encouragement of entrepreneurship are upheld.

- Press for financial responsibility and transparency.
- Promote well-rounded learning and interdepartmental connections.
- Safeguard the university's commitments toward less research-focused faculties such as Fine Arts, Education, Business, and Humanities.

We can't lose sight of the importance of the arts. *Re-elect Andrew Wade and ensure everyone's voices are heard.*

ACCLAIMED

LEANNE WILTSIE

I am a new graduate student in Anthropology. Having completed my undergraduate degree at UNBC, I will bring a fresh perspective to the Senate. I feel that the university faces many challenges. Challenges which, because of my previous experience working in university administration and in voluntary roles within student clubs and campus organizations, I know I have the experience and energy to work to overcome. In particular, I will work to draw attention to and improve upon the following issues:

- Adequate office space and study space for students
- Provision of scholarships and bursaries
- Availability of programs and quality of instruction
- Effective communication between faculty, administration and students.
- Childcare spaces
- Integration of environmental sustainability into all university policy

ALL CANDIDATES FORUMS

Candidates for the UVSS Board of Directors, Senate & BoG will be outlining their platforms and answering any questions you might have.

MON FEB 23
All Candidates Forum #1
ECS C125 (1:00PM)

THURS FEB 26
All Candidates Forum #2
Cinecenta (11:00AM)

MON MAR 2
Chairperson Debate
Cinecenta (1:00PM)

Attention All Students

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mandated under the University Act

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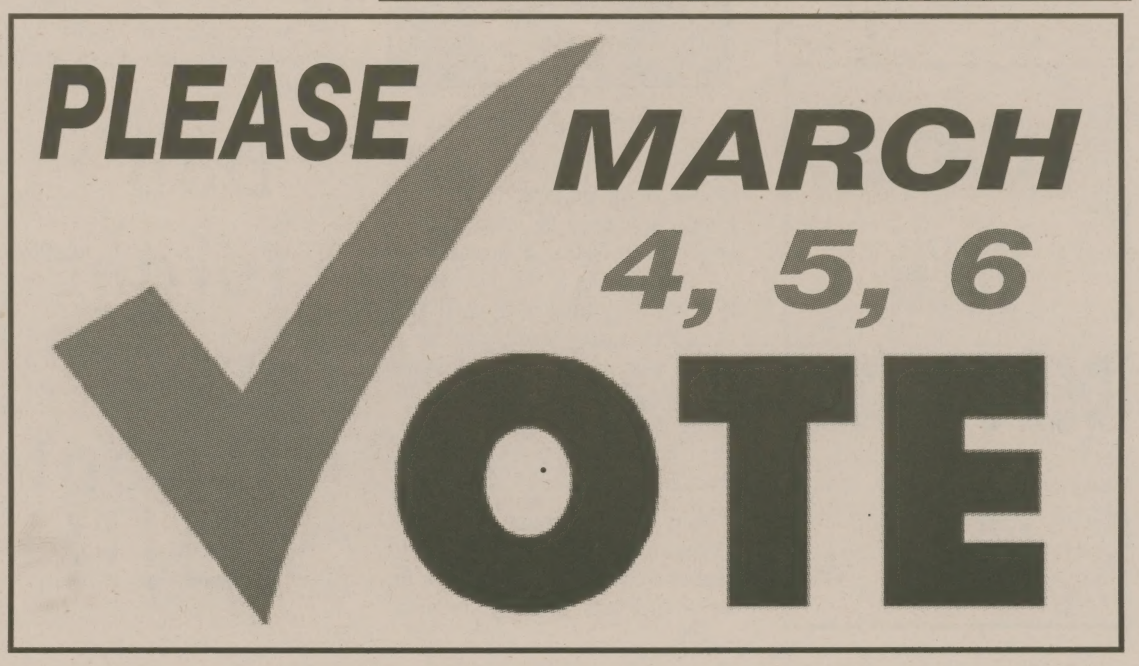


• ELECTION PLATFORMS • * BOARD OF GOVERNORS

The Board of Governors is one of the two major governing bodies of the University, the other being the Senate. The Board maintains and builds the University buildings and properties, appoints the staff of the University including the President, Vice Presidents and Deans, establishes faculties and departments on the recommendation of Senate, determines all fees including tuition fees, administers the University assets, provides for student loans, approves the University budget, and so on. It meets approximately every 7 weeks from September to June. Board members usually serve on two Board committees as well as the Board. The committees meet one day before the Board meeting.

Platforms for Students to be elected to the Board of Governors 2009-2010

JAMES COCCOLA

The University of Victoria is widely recognized as one of the best universities in Canada. Even with our impressive record, UVic is continually transforming itself. All students must come together to ensure that the change is sustainable and has students in mind. If elected, I follow a "3P" approach.

PEOPLE

- Work to include more stakeholders in discussions on planning

PLANET

- Ensure that sustainable governance and academics are considered in all decisions
- Work to upgrade current buildings to LEED standards
- Lobby for an expanded community garden

PROFIT

- Fight to decrease current fees and be an advocate against new ones

As a 4th year Political Science and Geography student my experience at UVic includes:

- Executive member for Undergraduate Politics Society
- Chair of the Social Planning Committee for the Society of Geography Students
- Member of the Finance Committee for Model United Nations
- Member of the UVic Curling club

As a member of the Board of Governors I will be a strong student voice with the goal of keeping the UVic community moving in a positive direction for the coming year.

Hola! Vote Coccola!

*If you want a **B**old, **A**wesome, **N**ew **G**overnment,*

*vote for **James Coccola** and* **BANG.**

CHRISTINE COMRIE

I am seeking election to the Board of Governors to act as a **strong voice for students** on the issues that affect us the most. As a student representative on BOG I will be guided by:

Sustainability as a top priority in future and current development on campus and within faculties

Prioritizing funding for **student services** including the library, daycare, and support groups.

Improvement in accessible post secondary education such as supporting **tuition fee decreases** and more **needs-based financial aid.**

I have the experience and drive to be an effective voice for students. For the past two years I have demonstrated my abilities through:

Two years as Director of Services of the University of Victoria Students' Society

Representative on both the Senate Learning and Teaching and Library Advisory Committees, and on the Search Committee for Chair of Political Science

Co-Chair of the UVSS Environmental Responsibility Committee

Active participant in my community as a volunteer at social, political and cultural events such as all-candidates forums and the independent film and video festival.

Vote Christine Comrie for Board of Governors to create accountability on is

sues that effect students.

PIERRE HAWKINS

As one of your student representatives on the Board of Governors, I hope to convey the student perspective on issues of importance to students. As a rational, level-headed person, I believe that I would be a good addition to a board whose main role is oversight. At the same time, I aim to lobby the administration for student issues, such as housing, food, and tuition.

UVic is a great school, but it can always be improved. As such, strategic direction is important. In a time of intense growth, students need a strong voice to preserve the charm, appeal, and natural beauty of our wonderful university. This voice is the one that I hope to bring to the board.

EDWARD PULLMAN

I am running for the Board of Governors because I believe I can effectively represent student needs, while still working collaboratively with key university staff, faculty and executives.

If elected, I will:

- Ensure tuition is capped at inflation in 2009/10 and lobby for reduced secondary fees (co-op, textbooks and coursepacks)
- Advocate for more undergraduate research opportunities
- Lobby the administration to create late-night study space and support late-night transit initiatives
- Fight to restore the $4.2 million in funding cut from UVic's operational budget last year
- Implement better waste disposal systems in university buildings.

My work advocating for students has given me the experience and knowledge needed to be an effective representative for you:

- Served one term as the Director of Academics for the Student Society
- Chair of the communications, speaker series and course union committees for the UVSS
- Student Senator and student rep on university committees, including Academic Standards, Continuing Studies and the Bicycle Users Committee.
- Collected thousands of signatures for the We Ride Transit Campaign calling for better transit funding

I will continue to work for change that keeps student needs and interests as the main focus of the University.

CURTIS SMITH

The Board of Governors is the highest decision making body on campus. Student involvement is key to making sure the university is accountable to its students. As President of the Undergraduate Politics Society I have already represented political science students at a departmental level. I ensured that their interests are at the forefront of the department's decision making, and I want to bring that same principle to the senate.

People:

- Encourage creative techniques for recruitment of new students
- Do everything in my power to ensure that UVIC remains a "destination university" for Canadian and International students

Planet:

- Encourage the university to continue their policies with regard to sustainable development on campus
- Lobby the university to upgrade all buildings on campus to meet LEED certification

Profit:

- Advocate for alternative means of funding development on campus to ensure students do not foot the bill for new projects
- Lobby for increased student aid and bursaries

This university needs the guidance and leadership from its students in order to maintain its good standing at a national level. **BANG** *can provide that through creative initiatives and bold ideas.*

*If you want a **b**old, **a**wesome, **n**ew **g**overnment,*

*vote **Curtis Smith** and* **BANG**.

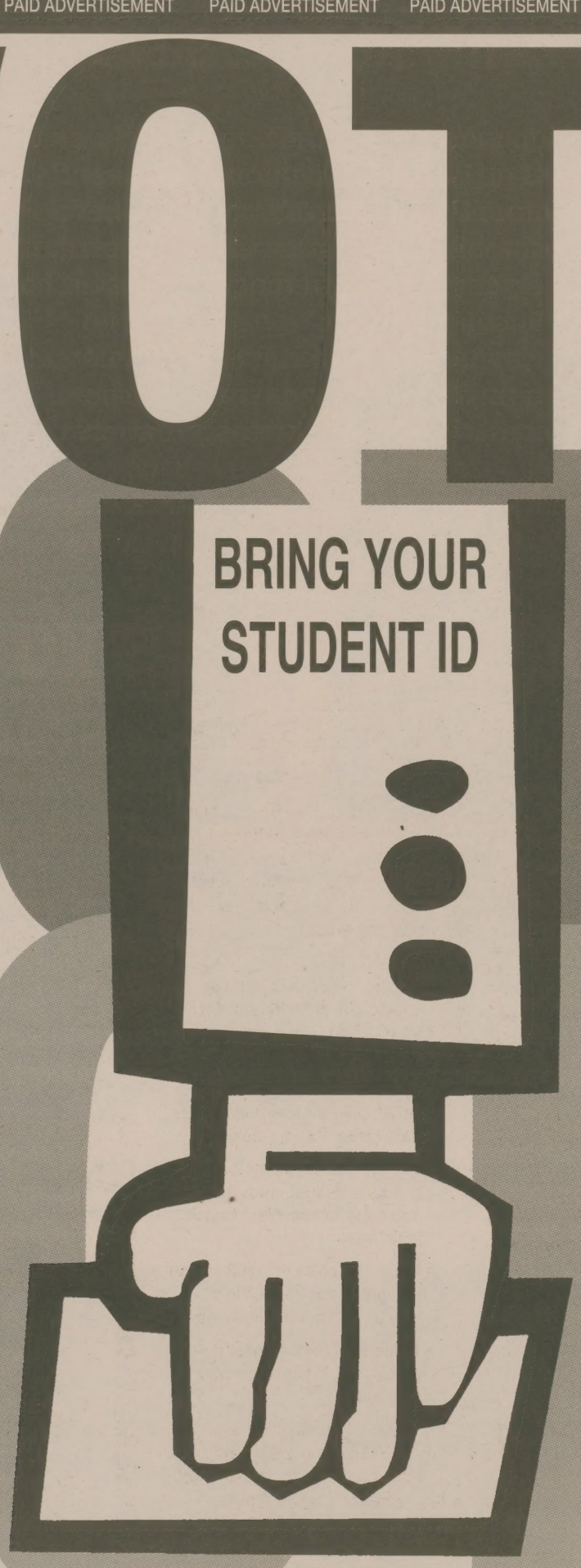
EXERCISE YOUR DEMOCRATIC RIGHT!

Don't forget your student ID!!!

We know you'd prefer to waste your time poking your friends on Facebook... but take two minutes and go to www.webvote.uvic.ca and vote for Senate and BoG!

VOTE

BRING YOUR STUDENT ID



POLLING STATIONS

WEDNESDAY MARCH 4		THURSDAY MARCH 5		FRIDAY MARCH 6	
Clearihue	9:00am - 8:00pm	Clearihue	9:00am - 8:00pm	Clearihue	9:00am - 4:00pm
David Strong	9:00am - 4:00pm	Commons	5:00pm - 7:00pm	Cornett	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Eng. Lab Wing	1:00pm - 4:00pm	Cornett	1:00pm - 4:00pm	David Strong	1:00pm - 4:00pm
Fine Arts	9;00am - 12:00pm	ECS	9:00am - 4:00pm	ECS	9:00am - 4:00pm
Library	9:00am - 8:00pm	Elliott	9:00am - 12:00pm	Elliott	9:00am - 12:00pm
MacLaurin	9:00am - 4:00pm	Fine Arts	1:00pm - 4:00pm	ELW	1:00pm - 4:00pm
McKinnon	1:00pm - 4:00pm	Fraser	1:00pm - 4:00pm	HSD	1:00pm - 4:00pm
SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm	SSM	1:00pm - 4:00pm	Library	9:00am - 4:00pm
University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm	Library	9:00am - 8:00pm	SSM	11:00am - 3:00pm
Wright Centre	1:00pm - 4:00pm	MacLaurin	9:00am - 4:00pm	SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm
		SUB	9:00am - 4:00pm	University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm
		University Centre	11:00am - 3:00pm		

MARCH 4 • 5 • 6

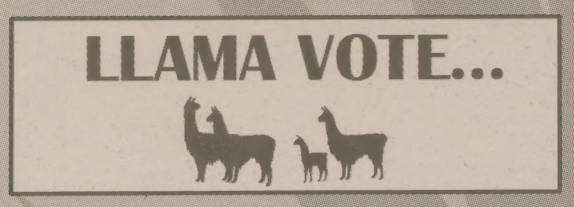
For 3 days only
March 4th, 5th, and 6th

FREE STICKERS

The economic recession has hit the elections office and no one wants to buy our stickers.

When you vote in the UVSS Elections, you will get a FREE sticker.

(some conditions apply - see in store for details)



Including all your favorite hits, like:
"Llama Vote..."
"I have a BIG election."
"I voted. But that's because I'm a big deal."
and never-before-seen, BRAND NEW 2009 designs!!!

"These stickers sure are swell!"
"Vote...all the hip kids are doing it."